Daily Report

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Bureaucratic Mentality in Arts Attacked

AU2307075590 Tirana DRITA in Albanian
8 Jul 90 pp 5, 12

[Diana Culi article: "Creative Thinking and the Bureaucratic Mentality"]

[Excerpts] It is a cheering and significant fact that recently, especially since the ninth and 10th party Central Committee plenums, there has been a noticeable revival of intellectual thinking necessary for the health and civilization of society. The active participation of intellectuals; in the problems of the day, in issues concerning prospects for the future, and in their commitment to debate and clash on opinions, no doubt has a positive effect on society's development. To talk frankly and sincerely about worries, obstacles, and difficulties doesn't disparage successes, but strengthens and builds upon them. Identifying the causes of detrimental phenomena and attempting to eliminate them does not "sully reality," but confronts reality with the attitude of a citizen who is honest in his relations with his country and state. [passage omitted]

Let us briefly dwell on two general trends of opinion displayed in relation to literature and the arts.

There are two principal tendencies observed in our assessments of literary works: The successes of our literature have been exaggerated and praised to the skies (this does not imply the works of one or two writers, but virtually all writers and their books for the last 40 years). On the other hand, a bureaucratic and sectarian mentality views writers through spectacles composed of prejudices. The reasons for the first tendency are clear. A new literature, a product of socialism, was born in almost virgin soil in a small country next to a Europe stocked with writers for a millennia. This literature had to be encouraged, supported, developed, and strengthened, especially in order to reflect the successes and victories of the new society. This was the mission our literature embraced, and our writers in general carried it out with dedication, zeal, and enthusiasm.

This attitude to the role of art is clear and obvious. There is no government or state in the world which would not dream of the great good fortune of finding that the ideas and views of the creative intelligentsia match its own programs and goals, and that writers are serving the system in which they live in total conviction and with full awareness. In our case, this support has existed. Nobody who has taken up his pen to write a story, poem, or novel can complain that his efforts were not rewarded by positive publicity. He could not wish for more organized mass media or more creative leave of absence, further reduced working hours, or more interviews in newspapers and on radio and television. However, everyone also knows that a bureaucratic mentality has also existed gaining official ground among managers of artistic institutions and in the administration, and in one way or another has made an effort to force art and, why not, even intellectual thinking into molds and templates. What have the signs of this been? This mentality has made writers think that an ill-considered line or an "obscure" story or novel provoking the subjective sensitivities of certain people could alter not only his creative work, but the entire course of his life. This mentality created undeserved honors and privileges for itself and for incompetent people, for economists who destroyed the economy, architects and engineers of projects that caused losses for the state budget, incompetent doctors, untalented writers and artists, and so forth. In this way, a writer would sadly observe that a negative character in his novel (which readers enjoyed and critics hailed as a masterpiece) would spring up in his path wherever he went, and even place him in a kind of isolation, if he felt inclined. Meanwhile he himself (as we have all known for thousands of years, but it doesn't hurt to repeat) needed contact with the world, ideas, viewpoints, and other people and their ways of life, in order to broaden and deepen his horizons, in order to establish a proper proportion between his country and his own work and the world. He noticed that it was more difficult for him than for any other intellectual of whatever profession to achieve this contact. He notices that no official (a representative of the bureaucratic mentality) trusts him completely, and, worse, neither does a certain category of readers, which has grown used to classifying him among a group of not entirely serious people who are incapable of judging the nation's concerns. He is not among that acceptable and appealing group of people whose job it is to sit and look at the forest, the sea, or high factory chimneys, while waiting for their muse's inspiration. Sometimes some of our colleagues have helped to create this outlook, out of their great zeal to point out "defects and hints of intellectualism," thus unconsciously parodying Confucius' ancient dictum, "Know thyself." Such reflex responses have been used in variety shows, comedies, and films portraying the artist or writer as: first of all socially dangerous, second, out of touch with life and scatterbrained, and third, semipsychopathic. This has happened in the case of poor writers and poor works, not with real writers and genuine works, but, as we know, the evil quickly takes root.

The bureaucratic mentality has always aimed at denying our literature any critical meaning. As everybody knows, Brecht said that "A person must always maintain a critical attitude. This attitude means cooperation, continuity, and life." According to such a mentality, literature has only to applaud and stand amazed at victories, expressing this amazement in artistically beautiful ways. There is no need to analyze or explain the damage this shortsighted view brings—it may be welcomed for a while, but it later reverses. There are writers who have behaved in this way because of their stunted world view and talent, and others because of mean desires to gain positions, praise, and trips abroad. Talented writers have been at pains to make their works genuine achievements, which means works that make you think about the fate of the nation, increase your love for your homeland and its people, make you wiser, deepen your understanding, and free you from the weight of the prejudices... the "don't"s,

"no"s, and bureaucratic "ahem"s which can impede the process of publication. Ironically, the language of this stultifying mentality demands that literature should be realistic, and the refrain of these literary judges has been and remains the vulgarizing expression, "Life is not like that," which forgets that you can treat realistic ideas even in a work of science fiction. In publishing practice, this mentality prefers cliches, schematism, and the happy ends which we rightly excoriate when it is a question of foreign literature. The writer therefore experiences more difficulty in publishing a novel or story in which the protagonist "meets a bad end" than one in which he is neither good nor bad, but a normal person with his virtues and vices. The preferred model has been for the communist or the generally positive character to be endowed with all the noble human virtues, and the negative character with all the vices. It has been said in theory that, according to the laws of dialectics, people's different qualities and aesthetic categories are not separate and divisible, but are linked and mixed with each other. Marx has been quoted in calling this mixture one of the merits and superiorities of realism, and so forth, but the opposite has happened in practice. I say "has happened," because this practice has been to some extent abandoned recently, not just today but for years, as a result of our writers becoming more aware and because of society's cultural growth. [passage omitted]

Today's practice proves that a stratum of people exist who are not pleased by the ideas put forward by the party and Comrade Ramiz Alia and the measures taken by the government for the further progress of the economy and culture. Bureaucratic employees, not those who work and exercise their brains and energies, but clerks ["chinovnik," Russian in original] of the kind made immortal by Chekhov. These people are nonentities content to reproduce each other's work, satisfied with their own incompetence. They are the dregs of society who hold nothing sacred and would sell their own mothers. They cannot in any way contribute to a vision of the future which will demand sweat and labor instead of cronyism, intelligence instead of empty phrases, and determination and ambition instead of bribery, the oiling of palms, and intrigues contrived by special pleaders. These people spend their working hours drinking coffee and devising new plans to prolong this manner of living. They secretly scoff at the idea that the only useful work anybody can do is that which benefits society. They include people who have been appointed to various posts, and who fight tooth and nail to cling to them. They find hundreds of excuses not to surrender them even when their term of office expires. [passage omitted]

Albania's laws and legislation, especially since the recent refinements, put our state at a thoroughly modern level, in accordance with contemporary standards. However, our society still encounters substantial psychological obstacles. This is to some extent explicable and an objective fact arises from the history of our people, who have not had the opportunity to evolve their spiritual and intellectual values in detail, because of their concrete problems of existence. It is a primitive kind of pride, for instance, not to admit a mistake: "That is what I said, and I will not change it because I am a man." The more cultured, civilized, and developed a person is, the easier he finds it to admit and correct a mistake. However, the withdrawal of a statement carries its own implications. It implies the pursuit of a scientific method of dialectic analysis and the evolution of a system of ideas which avoids stagnation and is invigorated by fresh input. If mankind had not behaved in this way, we would still be stuck with the Ptolemaic system which puts the earth at the center of the universe, and would never have launched a single rocket or satellite into space. These thinking people do not include those who pretend that "they understand now," and who change their views overnight, like gliders borne by the wind, without moral, philosophical, or analytical conviction, but simply impelled by the principle of profiting and extorting the same benefits they profited and extorted under earlier conditions. Nobody can guarantee to us that these people will not turn again tomorrow if they percieve that society, for one reason or another, is taking a step backward.

Such people do not take the least concern over the country or its worries and its future, but only over themselves and the armchairs where they sit and feel snug, warm, and comfortable. They make a lot of noise about the need for sacrifices (other people's, not their own), about how standards must be raised in all fields of our work of construction, and how there must.... [passage omitted]

The bureaucratic mentality which sets itself against worthwhile intellectual thinking is also evident in its discounting of personalities, putting each on the same level as another. Our historical studies have also fostered this by putting Isa Boletini, Luigj Gurakuqi, and Ismail Qemali on the same plane as figures of secondary importance; publications and cultural propaganda have used almost identical, generalized texts about all kinds of historical or contemporary personalities, regardless of their individual roles in science, art, and history. It is precisely this mentality which spreads the following ideas: We said so much about X, so we must be more restrained and give so much less space to Y. The standardization and leveling out of the worth and importance of personalities stultifies the people's intelligence, making them skeptical and distrustful of even genuine values, especially when fetishes are made out of pseudopersonalities. An ordinary person then becomes confused and wonders whether these people are really worth honoring and respecting, especially when he sees a university professor or dean, a chief engineer, a writer, an artist of the people, or an elderly and honored doctor smiling like a toady and kowtowing to people who have petty personal services at their disposal. In illegal ways, these latter people have created for themselves a better economic situation and superior housing conditions to

those of the distinguished intellectual who has no other tools but his pen, paper, and his creativity. [passage omitted]

Carcani Meets Working People of Gjirokastra

AU2107140190 Tirana ATA in English 0802 GMT 21 Jul 90

["The Freedom and Independence of the Homeland is Safeguarded and Strengthened Marching on the Road of the Party"—ATA headline]

[Text] Tirana, July 20 (ATA)—The member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers, Comrade Adil Carcani, went to the district of Gjirokastra these days, where he visited work and production centers, industrial and agricultural ones etc. He was accompanied by the first secretary of the district's party committee, Man-Xhar Binaj and the chairman of the executive committee of the district people's council, Flamur Cani.

In the free meetings and talks he had with the working people, the latter expressed their ardent love for the party with Comrade Ramiz Alia at the head and their determination to translate into life the important decisions of the 9th, 10th and 11th Plenums of the Party Central Committee.

In these meetings Comrade Adil Carcani greeted the working people on behalf of the party Central Committee, of the Council of Ministers and Comrade Ramiz Alia, personally.

The working people of agricultural mechanical plant, (AMP) of the garments' production enterprise "Bule Naipi",of MTS and of the other collectives of the city's industrial zone gathered in the meeting held in one of the workshops of AMP. In his talks with them, Comrade Adil Carcani pointed to the great victories achieved over these 46 years of the free life under the wise and farsighted leadership of the party, in the field of economy, culture and defence and, above all, in strengthening and steeling our people's and democratic power, which stems from the people and belongs to them. He said that the foundations of this power, which were laid during the antifascist national-liberation war strengthen with each passing day by realising and overfulfilling the plans and by carrying foward the works in all the sectors. Our state power, which is a fruit of the sweat and blood of our people, is dear to us, therefore we safeguard it as the apple of our eyes. Then he spoke of the new economic mechanism, of its priorities, as well as of the benefits the workers will enjoy with the implementation of the decisions of the 11th plenum of the party CC for the increase of low wages, the payments according to the work place, for the extension of the handicraft and trade service etc. And gave instructions that some elements of the new economic mechanism be applied since this year.

In the "Thodhori Shano" house of culture of the Dervican Village Comrade Adil Carcani met with cooperativists, veterans, specialists and distinguished cadres of the Dropulli zone. Being briefed on the achievements of the agricultural economies of this zone, he praised the traditional friendship linking the Albanian people with the Greek one and stressed that this friendship is in the interest of both peoples and of the minority itself in the future, too, he said we will continue to march on this road friendship and cooperation. The great victories attained in Dropull and in all the villages of the minority, he said, are a result of the correct and principled policy our party has followed and is following according to the teachings of the dear and unforgettable leader Comrade Enver Hoxha, since the war, when Albanians and minority people fought and won together and today, when they enjoy all the rights and work together with the Albanian people for the construction of socialism and the defence of the homeland. The fraternity with the Albanian people, Comrade Adil Carcani said, is at the foundation of all the successes attained in Dropull, too, as in all the country.

In conclusion, he expressed his belief that the minority people, side by side with the Albanian people, will work and fight to make the life more beautiful and prosperous, will always safeguard with determination and vigilence attained victories.

A warm meeting was conducted in Libohova, where there were gathered inhabitants of this town and cooperativists from Suha, Labova, Nepravishta, Stegopuli etc.

Speaking of the great importance of the decisions of the latest plenums of the party CC, which are correct and irreversible and which are embraced and being implemented by our working masses, Comrade Adil Carcani attracted the attention for a more effective work explaining and analysing them. He visited also some trade units in the Gjirokastra city and concerned himself in the people's supply.

In these meetings the Gjirokastra people, as always, voiced their readiness to ever better implement the important decisions of the 11th plenum of the party CC and Comrade Ramiz Alia's instructions.

Democratic League of Kosovo Demands Abrogation

AU2107143390 Tirana ATA in English 1205 GMT 21 Jul 90

["The Democratic League of Kosovo Demands the Abrogation of the Anti-Albanian Decisions of the Serbian Leadership']

[Text] Tirana, July 21 (ATA)—The Democratic League of Kosovo stated on July 20 that this organisation will continue its efforts for the peaceful solution to the problem of Kosovo. According to the Yugoslav News

Agency TANJUG, at the weekly press conference organised in Pristina, the chairman of the Democratic League, Ibrahim Rugova, demanded that Serbia abrogate as soon as possible the laws on suspending Kosovo's assembly and its government, to withdraw the police and empty the buildings of Pristina radio and television and of the Writers' League of Kosovo, which are under the control of police forces.

Likewise the Democratic League demanded that the Yugoslav premier, Ante Markovic, adopt all the measures and support the government of Kosovo. Further on, Rugova said that the Democratic League of Kosovo turns down the agreements achieved at the Yugoslav presidency for the federal constitution. It is no good, he said, if they the federation thinks that it can achieve an agreement without the Albanians.

At the end Ibrahim Rugova said to the reporters that the Democratic League has all the rights to demand the approval of the law on the elections in Kosovo.

Alia Greets Egypt's Mubarak on National Day

AU2207184390 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1800 GMT 22 Jul 90

[Text] Comrade Ramiz Alia, president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, has sent the following greetings in a telegram to Husni Muhammad Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

It is a particular pleasure for me, on the occasion of the celebration of your country's national day, in the name of the Albanian people, the Presidium of the People's Assembly, and in my own name, to send cordial greetings to you, Mr. President, and best wishes to the fraternal Egyptian people for their well-being, and their country's prosperity and continual progress.

I express the wish that the friendly relations of cooperation which exist in many fields between the People's Socialist Republic of Albania and the Arab Republic of Egypt will further develop and strengthen in the common interest of both our peoples.

Alia Condolences to PRC for Flood Victims

AU2207132290 Tirana ATA in English 0812 GMT 22 Jul 90

[Text] Tirana, July 22 (ATA)—The president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, Comrade Ramiz Alia, sent the following message to the president of the People's Republic of China, Yan Shangkun:

"We regretfully learned the news on the great overflows that hit the southern and western provinces of China which caused numerous victims and material damages.

"On this occasion, on behalf of the Albanian people and in my own name, I send to you and through you to the Chinese people and the families of the victims our sincere condolences."

Alia Sends Greetings to King of Belgium

AU2107134190 Tirana ATA in English 0800 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Text] Tirana, July 21 (ATA) The President of the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, Comrade Ramiz Alia sent the following message to the King of Belgium, Baudouin I:

" The anniversary of the national day of Belgium affords me the opportunity that, on behalf of the Albanian people, the Presidium of the People's Assembly and in my own name to send to Your Majesty, the warm greetings and best wishes for the happiness and prosperity of the friendly Belgian people".

Parties Issue Presidential Candidate Nominations

BSP Proposes Kyuranov, Lauds Mladenov

AU2007112790 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 0914 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Statement by Aleksandur Lilov, chairman of the Bulgarian Socialist Party Supreme Council, at the morning session of the Grand National Assembly in Sofia on 20 July—live]

[Excerpts] Thank you for giving me the floor, Mr. Chairman.

Esteemed National Assembly deputies, the proposals of the BSP [Bulgarian Socialist Party] on a new president of Bulgaria and on a vice president for our state are well known. They were also published in the press. As you know, we propose to discuss the candidacy of Comrade Chavdar Kyuranov for the post of president. I shall give you some biographical details about him. [passage omitted]

In our opinion, Chavdar Kyuranov has distinguished himelf by his brilliant education, his democratic convictions, and his lofty civic, and intellectual virtues. We are convinced that Bulgaria will have a well-trained, authoritative president, if you, esteemed National Assembly deputies, should decide to elect him.

Our party proposes Professor Veiko Vulkanov for the post of vice president. Let us hear a few details about his life. [passage omitted] As a competent and highly esteemed scholar, Professor Vulkanov, who is not affiliated with any political party, would be a particularly appropriate candidate for the post of vice president. After having submitted these proposals, I would appeal to you to vote for our candidates.

Permit me now, esteemed ladies and gentlemen, as a National Assembly deputy, to speak on the former president of our country. I shall not examine the question whether our present Constitution provides for acceptance of the president's resignation or not.

As you know and as we see, the opinions of the legal experts are diametrically opposed on this question. I shall not discuss the circumstances which led to the president's resignation, either.

I think that the proposal on the parliamentary investigation of such circumstances is the most appropriate method for an objective and calm evaluation of events. However, I consider it my political, civic, and moral duty to call your attention to three major questions, esteemed National Assembly deputies.

The first is the attitude of the political parties, of the [word indistinct], of the public, and of the mass media to the institution of the Presidency in our country. What should this attitude be, in my opinion, what should be the approach to the head of state as an embodiment of our state?

I consider the language and the tone which were adopted in speaking about the former Bulgarian president and his resignation as not only personally offensive, but also as undermining the prestige of the state. You know that we have sad traditions in respect of the moral, and in the past, even physical extermination of Bulgarian politicians. Today we should change this attitude, in my opinion.

In the United States, the Watergate scandal led to Nixon's resignation as a president, but not to his elimination as a personality. He is a politician and statesman who later continued to be in charge of responsible and authoritative missions in Moscow, Beijing and other cities.

Let us take the example of Austria where, as you know, the president of this state was accused several years ago of nothing less than being an SS officer during the war. However, this civilized state, with enviable calm and dignity, did not allow others to resolve the question of who should be Austria's head of state.

Democratic states preserve the stability of the special status under which their heads of state and presidential institutions exist, because they are aware that they cannot expect other countries to respect them, if they do not have any self-respect.

We turned the presidential crisis into one of the basic manifestations of party biased struggle, and this is as regrettable as it is destabalizing for our state.

The second question is related to a personal evaluation of the president whom we are expected to part with. I do not oblige anyone of you, esteemed National Assembly deputies, to share my evaluation. However, I think that Bulgaria, at this hour, is losing one of the most able and authoritative Bulgarian and worldwide diplomats, statesmen, and politicians.

I shall not engage in discussions about the statement he made. However, a mature, and statesmanlike way of thinking should take a number of things into consideration when it decides on the fate of its statesmen, especially if the fate of the state president is at stake.

We belong to different parties, we defend different interests and views, but if we are pesonalities, and we should be such, considering that we have been elected as National Assembly deputies, we cannot fail to worthily appreciate the credit earned by Petur Mladenov in serving the state and we cannot underestimate his personal qualities. I am convinced of this fact and this is important, not only for himself, but for us, for Bulgaria's parliamentary democracy, and parliamentary ethics.

I do not know anyone among us who could doubt Petur Mladenov's diplomatic skill, his experience, and prestige, as a man who served as Bulgaria's minister of foreign affairs for over 18 years, a man who is on first-name terms with most of the European and worldwide statesmen and politicians. I do not know anyone who could doubt the exceptional credit Petur Mladenov earned in eliminating the totalitarian regime on 10 November, 1989. We are now observing many fighters against the totalitarian regime. I sincerely respect the true ones, but it unacceptable to

refuse to pay tribute to the man who really played the decisive role on 10 November and did so at the risk of his life. Esteemed National Assembly deputies, I consider this as unacceptable.

However, there is something even more important. We are not only talking about 10 November, 1989. We are talking about the seven months following this date. This was an exceptionally difficult period, and you all understand that this was a crucial time, a time of major decisions, and even of martyrdom.

Fortunately, in Bulgaria things proceeded without violence. You should know that President Petur Mladenov deserved the major credit for this.

The people should also know this and I am sure that history will duly appreciate this truth. Therefore in closing this question, I think that it is necessary to further pursue the truth by investigating the circumstances of the president's resignation and to pay tribute to President Mladenov for having guaranteed a peaceful transition to democracy. I deeply appreciate the statesmanlike wisdom of this man, who in assessing the current situation emerging in the country, decided to resign so that the political atmosphere might calm down and the process of democratization in our country may be pursued. I think that this is not only a noble act, but the act of a politically strong man, an act of high-minded political maturity and responsibility which are so rare in our country today.

I would like Bulgaria to have more statesmen with Petur Mladenov's qualities, scope, his nationwide and international prestige. I would like to believe that this 54-year-old politician will not be lost to Bulgaria's political life.

I appeal to you, esteemed deputies, to calm down our political passions and to adopt wiser counsels in deciding the fate of talented politicians and statesmen in this country, regardless of the party they belong too, because they are not numerous, and whenever they appear they usually become someone's victims.

I think that, despite the high degree of distrust which we, unfortunately, still suffer from as a party in this parliament, the Grand National Assembly will meet the high standards of statesmanlike wisdom if it were to express gratitude to Petur Mladenov for the credit he has earned for our state and for its peaceful transition to the democratic system. Thank you.

SDS Names Dertliev

AU2007121390 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 0927 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Statement by Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev, chairman of the Coordinating Council of the Union of Democratic Forces, at the Grand National Assembly in Sofia on 20 July—live]

[Excerpts] Esteemed Mr. Chairman, esteemed colleague people's deputies:

The SDS [Union of Democratic Forces] officially proposes its candidates for the posts of president and vice president of the People's Republic of Bulgaria. As its candidate for president of the Republic, the SDS proposes Dr. Petur Dertliev.

Petur Dertliev was born on 7 April 1916, in a family of teachers. His father Anton Dertliev was one of the leaders of the teachers union. Petur Dertliev became a Social Democrat in his youth; as a student, he was secretary of the section of the Socialist Youth at the Faculty of Medicine. He took part in the strikes and all actions conducted by the progressive students during the period from 1934 to 1940. He was arrested many times, and during the 1938 elections he was investigated for illegal printing of materials. [passage omitted]

Dr. Dertliev is a politician with a wide outlook, penetrating intelligence, with realistic views of the state of affairs both at home and in the modern world as a whole. He has a number of interesting ideas in connection with getting our country out from the economic and political crisis in which it is now situated. These valuable qualities gave him prestige, not only as an authoritative party leader, but also a political leader of nationwide importance. All these considerations give me grounds to believe that Dr. Dertliev is a politician who in these difficult times can help in rescuing Bulgaria from the deep crisis in which it is now.

As vice president of the Republic, the SDS proposes Petur Kirilov Beron.

Petur Beron was born in Sofia on 14 March 1940. His parents were economists, and not members of any party. [passage omitted]

In April 1989 he was co-founder of the Ecoglasnost Movement, and a participant in many protest actions. For the period from 7 December 1989 to the end of 1990, he is serving as secretary of the SDS Coordinating Council. He has also been elected as secretary of Ecoglasnost. He is a people's deputy for the Sixth Vratsa Multimandate Constituency.

I would also like to say a few words in connection with the resignation of Mr. Petur Mladenov, president of the Republic. I would support the view that it is inappropriate that when a leader of state leaves he scene, he should be reviled at any price. That would be a very bad continuation of a well-known tradition. I consider that the case is not connected with berating him personally, but with Mr. Petur Mladenov as holder of the post of president of the Republic. The state of affairs was made more complicated because of the mistake he made in his address to the Bulgarian people, as well as by the national reaction to the episode concerning the videoclip which was shown in the television studio.

I am not saying these words because of the error he made. Dissatisfaction has arisen against him. It is possibly a forgivable human error which anyone might have committed in the situation—and on 14 December 1989,

the situation in 9 September Square was indeed out of the ordinary. In such a situation any statesman might have lost his nerve, and might have said things which are undesirable, or even impermissible. However, he should have had the manliness and courage to be sufficiently sincere and honest to admit this mistake. I am sure that, had he done this, our public would have adopted a different attitude toward his act. [applause]

I have respect for his gesture on 10 November, as well as his commitment which he assumed. I respect the fact that he contributed to the changes at the top, in order that our state and the Communist Party should be transformed without bloodshed, but I am categorically against attributing greater historical importance to these events than they deserve. I do not agree that the people who carried out the state-party coup d'etat on 10 November should now promote themselves to the rank of heroes. [applause]

I think that our opposition, before 10 November, and years before that [murmuring], yes, years before that, had more definite political commitment, and also openly came out against Zhivkov's regime, for which many people suffered. Therefore, we should not date the start of the new democracy in Bulgaria from 10 November, as certain people want to. Let us preserve the historical truth.

M.P.'s on Election's Course

AU2007181690 Sofia BTA in English 1649 GMT 20 Jul 90

["Predictions About Future President"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, 20 Jul (BTA)—What course will the presidential elections take? There will be a lot of intrigues and clashes between different people's interests, an "outsider," leader of a party which is not represented in the Grand National Assembly, said.

The choice is going to be a difficult one, because there is not a uniting and highly authoritative personality, the leader of the Nikola Petkov Bulgarian Agrarian Party, Mr. Milan Drenchev, thinks.

The choice is really going to be a difficult one, but we could hardly expect a crisis. In any case Chavdar Kyuranov, the nominee of the Bulgarian Socialist Party (BSP), cannot rely on the support of the opposition, although at the beginning of its activity he was a member of the delegation of the Union of Democratic Forces (SDS) to the roundtable talks, Mr. Ivaylo Trifonov of the SDS said.

Dr. Petur Dertliev will become president in the end, the leader of the Independent Human Rights Society, Mr. Rumen Vodenicharov, believes. But he added that minute by minute his chances are reduced because of the "impolite and intolerant" behaviour of the opposition, which Mr. Vodenicharov is also a member of. According to him, the president could have been elected today if the debates had not been diverted into another direction.

The leader of the Green Party, Mr. Aleksandur Karakachanov, is of the same opinion, but according to him the BSP is taking its time because it wants to gain political dividends.

The choice of our president is like a fight between two rams, Mr. Dragomir Draganov of the BSP said. We have not yet got a lobby mechanism which could offer in a silent way decisions that would be acceptable for all, the national representative said. In his view the presidential elections will take another two or three days. He thinks that the presidential elections have been rushed, because this procedure should have been preceded by electing the standing committees. He considers that both the nominations of Dr. Dertliev and Mr. Viktor Vulkov are good and he will be sorry if neither of them is elected.

The president will be elected at the beginning of next week, Ms. Elena Poptodorova of the BSP thinks. She would like to know why the debates got decentered today. We are probably at an early stage of mastering the parliamentarian technique, Ms. Poptodorova said, and underlined that more than two candidates would be put to the vote.

The leader of the Movement for Rights and Freedoms (MRF), Mr. Ahmed Dogan, holds the opinion that the parliamentarian groups are already ready for the second tour. He is sure that neither of the two candidates will win in the first election tour.

Obviously a new variant, of nominating candidates who are not affiliated to any party, will be sought, Mr. Krasen Stanchev of the SDS said, mentioning Mr. Zhivko Stalev, Mr. Dimitur Popov and Academician Blagovest Sendov. Mr. Stanchev supposes that this variant could also fail, and sees the solution to the problem in electing a woman to the post of president whom he sees as a uniting figure.

Mr. Stanchev does not rule out the possibility of the SDS members casting their votes for Mr. Kyuranov. In his opinion Mr. Kyuranov is a prospect-holding figure from the point of view of the MRF too, because he was engaged with the cause of the Turks.

Bishop Pankratiy, a national representative of the Fatherland Union, considers that each one of the candidates has merits and qualities, but it depends from which "corner of the belfry" they are viewed. "I would like them to be seen only from the point of view of mother Bulgaria," he said, and did not rule out the possibility of nominating other candidates, too.

The independent national representative, Mr. Stoyan Mikhaylov, considers that by nominating these candidates the parties did not any display political farsightedness. He sees the future president as an independent figure around which the political forces could unite.

Assembly Members Question Candidates

AU2107142190 Sofia BTA in English 2018 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Sofia, 20 Jul (BTA)—The presidential candidates Dr. Petur Dertliev of the Union of Democratic Forces (SDS), Mr. Chavdar Kyuranov of the Bulgarian Socialist Party (BSP) and Mr. Viktor Vulkov of the Bulgarian Agrarian Party (BZNS) will have the possibility of defending their nomination on Tuesday. (24 July)

The national representatives were directing questions to them for hours on end. Most of the questions had a political character.

All M.P.'s supporting the different candidates made the same appeal: to elect a statesman against whom nobody could say a hard word.

Mr. Petur Mladenov's resignation gave rise to animated debates. At today's sitting no agreement was reached as to its formulation.

BSP Chairman Aleksandur Lilov, Premier Andrey Lukanov and Defence Minister Dobri Dzhurov laid stress on Mr. Mladenov's contribution to the peaceful transition to democracy and on his decisive role in Todor Zhivkov's ousting. But yet the Grand National Assembly did not endorse the proposal to acknowledge his services.

At today's session a national representative of the Movement for Rights and Freedoms (MRF) drew attention to the fact he was called "an independent M.P." when he was to be included in one of the parliamentary commissions. The National Assembly chairman corrected his mistake.

This morning the chairman of the Grand National Assembly reminded that all parliamentary groups should be set up in strict compliance with the rules regulating the work of the Bulgarian Parliament when they are adopted. A MRF representative raised an objection by saying that nothing should curtail the rights of the national representatives to form a parliamentary group, not even the rules.

'Independent' Candidate Appears

AU2207190790 Sofia BTA in English 1806 GMT 22 Jul 90

[Text] Sofia, 22 Jul (BTA)—Engineer Velin Meledzhiev is a candidate for an independent president of Bulgaria, it was emitted tonight on Bulgarian National Television central information emission.

The 42-year old candidate nominated himself at a meeting of the newly-founded students' organization which has a working name of "Academic Forum". The meeting is still on.

As it was said in the emission, it was the negative development of events in this country which made Meledzhiev run for the highest state position. He said himself that his program mainly placed the accent on the revival of the country's economy and its intellectual potential.

Zhivkov Meets Lilov, Requests Assembly Hearing

AU2007164590 Sofia BTA in English 1613 GMT 20 July 90

[Text] Sofia, 20 Jul (BTA)—On July 19, 1990 through the prosecuting magistracy Todor Zhivkov asked for a meeting with a representative of the leadership of the Bulgarian Socialist Party (BSP).

His request was discussed by the BSP parliamentary group and who decided that the national representatives Alexander Lilov and Yanaki Stoilov would take part in the meeting.

At the meeting Todor Zhivkov confirmed his desire to be given a hearing at the Grand National Assembly. The stand was expressed on behalf of the BSP that its parliamentary group rises no objections against Zhivkov's desire, but insists on revealing the political and factual truth about the questions raised and will decisively resist the attempts to calumniate the BSP.

M.P.'s on Expected Hearing

AU2007192890 Sofia BTA in English 1745 GMT 20 Jul 90

["What Do the MP's Expect From Zhivkov?"—BTA Headline]

[Text] Sofia, 20 Jul (BTA, Ivanichka Toncheva)—According to Mr. Rumen Vodenicharov in most probability Todor Zhivkov will say that he is not the only one who should assume the responsibility for the past, that there are other people, some of whom are in the Grand National Assembly now, who should bear the responsibility for it. In his capacity of chairman of the Independent Human Rights Society, Mr. Vodenicharov had a meeting with the former dictator. He found him to be in good health, in contrast to the situation around November 10 last year when he was ousted.

Todor Zhivkov admitted that he had really been in poor shape at that time. Mr Vodenicharov also mentioned some sensational documents which show that there was not any state and party takeover on November 10, 1989. After this date Todor Zhivkov's party mates decided to shift all the responsibility only upon him with the purpose of preserving the position of their party as a ruling one, Mr Rumen Vodenicharov said. He thinks that Todor Zhivkov's defense will be built up on the thesis that he was just part of a wrong political line. He resents the fact that his party mates did not play the game fairly to the end.

Todor Zhivkov will probably stake on the presumption that his role in the piling up of Bulgaria's foreign debt and the change of the Turks' names, for example, is exaggerated and that in actual fact he did commit any crime.

Now, eight months later, a realistic judgement can be passed on Todor Zhivkov's faults, defining at the same time to what degree he is responsible for them and what the responsibity of other people is, Mr Rumen Vodenichaov told the BTA reporter.

For the time being the leader of the Bulgarian Socialist Party (BSP), Mr Aleksandur Lilov, does not want to announce what his questions to Mr Zhivkov are going to be.

The radical-minded Socialist Anzhel Vagenshtayn has no questions to Bulgaria's former No. 1. "He is all clear to me," Mr Vagenshtayn said, adding he would even leave the assembly hall when Zhivkov appears to speak in it.

Zhivkov is a past stage and I do not know why he should "be present" in parliament, the Socialist Dragomir Draganov thinks. Led by his purely scientific interest, he would ask him if it is true that in 1968 he proposed to Brezhnev the variant about sending the socialist countries' troops to Czechoslovakia, but this is a mere trifle, Draganov noted. He believes that Zhivkov will lie to him. Draganov himself has seen certain documents and he knows it was Zhivkov who proposed the variant.

Ms Elena Poptodorova of the BSP shows interest in the "regenerative process" the change of the Turks' names in 1984. The mechanism making this decision is not clear to her and she would like to ask Zhivkov about it. She hopes he will be asked a lot of other questions.

Mr Krasen Stanchev considers that the parliamentary groups should formulate their questions to Todor Zhivkov in advance. According to him the figure who would be probably exposed is the present Minister of Finance, Mr Belcho Belchev. He has doubts as to the exposure of Mr Lukanov. If there is not a preliminary agreement between the present BSP leadership and Zhivkov, people can get exposed, the opposition MP Stanchev said. In his oppinion the BSP could frighten Zhivkov.

The leader of the Green Party, Mr Aleksandur Karakachanov, is more interested in hearing what Zhivkov has got to say than in asking him questions. He is curious what Zhivkov's arguments about his rule will be and he wonders if he would take a stand regarding Lukanov, Dzhurov and Lilov who are sitting in the first row in the Grand National Assembly hall.

Further on Zhivkov Meeting

AU2007210490 Sofia BTA in English 2000 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Sofia, 20 Jul (BTA, Ivanichka Toncheva)—Several months ago Todor Zhivkov expressed his desire to have a meeting with representatives of the Bulgarian Socialist Party (BSP) the former Communist Party from which he was expelled on December 13, 1989. But at that time his request was denied because it was considered that such a meeting would be out of place before the elections. But after the completion of the elections it is only but moral to respond to this request, told the BTA reporter the BSP national representative Yanaki Stoilov who together with the BSP leader Aleksandur Lilov had a meeting with Bulgaria's No. 1 in implementation of the decision of the Socialist parliamentary group.

Yanaki Stoilov, one of the youngest Socialist members of the Bulgarian parliament, attended the meeting to avoid making the talk with Aleksandur Lilov a "private one".

The BSP parliamentary group was not sure the meeting had really to take place, Stoilov said, but in the end the opinion gained the upper hand that Zhivkov should be informed about the decision of most of the members of the BSP parliamentary group as to revealing the truth about the period of Zhivkov's rule. Another argument had also its bearing in making the decision for the meeting a few days ago it became known that the opposition had already established contacts with Zhivkov, otherwise the BSP would never have agreed to be the first to hold such a meeting.

According to Stoilov Todor Zhivkov looked like he did before, he has clear mind, his reactions are good. At moments he even exhibited a sense of humor and made ironical remarks about himself. He said he had summed up the events and analyzed them. According to Stoilov Zhivkov did not decline his political responsibility as a ruler of the country.

Although an unofficial, Zhivkov's meeting with the two Socialists was official in tone, Stoilov said. He stated there had been no bargaining at it.

'Compromise' Reached With Kurdzhali Strikers

AU2107141290 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 0900 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Text] We start with a somewhat unexpected piece of news: The situation in Kurdzhali is returning to normal.

After the National Assembly representatives yesterday devoted attention to the issue of the unrest in Kurdzhali, a large rally was held between 0100 and 0400 this morning [2200 GMT and 0100 GMT—as heard] by the supporters of the Committee for the Defense of National Interests. During the rally Dimitur Arnaudov, people's deputy for the Fatherland Party of Labor and chairman of the Coordinating Council of the Nationwide Committee for Defense of National Interests, explained the standpoint adopted by the Grand National Assembly on the declaration that the committee had submitted for discussion.

After prolonged discussions, during which the overwhelming majority of the rally participants were categorically against adopting the proposal to call off the strike, the following compromise solution was reached:

Beginning today, Saturday, 21 July, the strike committee raises the blockade of the bus and rail lines, stops the occupation of the state institutions, and calls off the strike.

Beginning Monday [23 July] the strike will become a token one, with full readiness and reservation of the right

to make the strike an effective one again if the National Assembly fails to make a final decision—a decision, not merely a standpoint—on the issues raised by the Committee for Defense of National Interests.

Kurdzhali Tension 'Cooled Down'

AU2107183090 Sofia BTA in English
1739 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Excerpts] Kurdzhali, 21 Jul (BTA)—Tensions in the town of Kurdzhali cooled down after yesterday's address by parliament. Discontent in Kurdzhali and the other towns in this country where Bulgarians and Turks are living was caused by the formation of the parliamentary group of Ahmed Dogan's Movement for Rights and Freedoms (MRF). [passage omitted]

According to preliminary unconfirmed reports the strikes have caused damages to the amount of some 7 million leva.

In the town of Khaskovo the representatives of the Committee for Protection of National Interests were not satisfied with the position of the Grand National Assembly expressed in an address in connection with the exacerbated situation. It is believed that this document does not give a clear answer to the population's demands, related with the ethnic problem. Due to that, the effective strike in some of the enterprises is still going on.

National Assembly Declaration on Ethnic Unrest

AU2007194490 Sofia BTA in English
1855 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Sofia, 20 Jul (BTA)—In connection with the mounting tensions over the ethnical problem in the regions of Kurdzhali, Khaskovo, Razgrad, Shumen, Aytos and other areas the Grand National Assembly came out with an address. At the beginning of this week when the Bulgarian parliament re-opened its session mass strikes were declared in these regions and a lot of public and state establishments were blocked.

It is underlined in the address that the problem of the lack of clearness as to the principle according to which the parliamentary groups are formed will be solved after the rules regulating the work of the Grand National Assembly are adopted. (Protests are made against the formation of the parliamentary groups on an ethnic principle, alluding at the Movement for Rights and Freedoms.)

In connection with all demands raised in connection with the ethnical problem and the unity of the Bulgarian nation, the Grand National Assembly states that the declaration on the ethnical problem adopted by the Ninth National Assembly on January 15, 1990 reflects the public consensus on this extremely important problem. The formulations which are contained in it can serve as a basis for the working out of the new constitution.

The Grand National Assembly declares it will pay due attention to all justified demands and defends the position that the laws of the country should be observed everywhere and by all people.

In conclusion the Bulgarian parliament addresses all political forces, public movements and all people in the country making an appeal on them to keep calm, to show common sense and responsibility and not to resort to illegal acts of violence. The bodies of the executive, the court and the prosecuting magistracy are obliged to keep public peace in the whole country, it is said in the address.

Premier Andrey Lukanov, the Interior Minister Atanas Semerdzhiev and the Fatherland Labor Party MP Dimitur Arnaudov, who confirmed that the situation in these regions is very complicated, contributed to the unanimous adoption of the document.

An opposition MP called upon his colleagues from these regions to go immediately there and help to normalize situation.

'Appeal for Public Calm' Issued

AU2007171490

[Editorial Report] Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian at 1423 GMT on 20 July begins a live relay of the first session of the National Assembly.

Assembly Chairman Todorov calls upon SDS member Krasen Stanchev, who is also member of the parliamentary commission appointed to deal with petitions, memorandums, requests, etc. submitted to parliament and to prepare draft parliamentary responses to them, to read out a draft text of a Grand National Assembly appeal for public calm in connection with the escalating ethnic-related tension in Khaskovo, Razgrad, Shumen, Aytos, and other regions with a large Turkish-speaking population. Stanchev reads the draft text, which immediately provokes members' objections and comments.

At 1433 GMT Todorov moves to instruct Krasen Stanchev and Dimitur Arnaudov, deputy chairman of the Fatherland Party of Labor, to tell the commission to revise the draft appeal to take account of members' comments.

Members then proceed to put questions of the most varied nature to the three presidential candidates, for them to answer later. Many questions put to the BSP candidate, Chavdar Kyuranov, concern his intimate connection with the discredited Zhivkov regime. All three candidates are also asked about their views on such subjects as: the nationality issue; solving the economic crisis; how they would have acted as president in relation to the student sit-ins, and so on.

At 1606 GMT an unidentified member of the parliamentary commission on petitions returns and reads a revised draft text of the above appeal in connection with ethnic-related unrest. This provokes further objections and comments. Some members suggest deferring the appeal until they have elected a president.

At 1621 GMT the spokesman of the SDS parliamentary group proposes halting the process of putting questions to the presidential candidates, calling a recess, and then hearing the candidates' answers to the questions. He urges members to press on, because "we must elect a president tonight!" This is met with murmurs of approval.

At 1624 Dimitur Arnaudov presses for an immediate vote on the Grand National Assembly appeal, saying that "the situation is frightening," and he "doubts if the Grand National Assembly will be able to operate on Monday [23 July]" unless they act here and now. He is fully supported by Interior Minister Atanas Semerdzhiev. After further discussion, at 1630 GMT Krasen Stanchev again reads the revised draft text of the appeal, upon which Chairman Todorov calls a vote. The text of the appeal is passed by an overwhelming majority, with two votes against, and four abstentions. It is also mentioned that the appeal will be read on the main nightly television news program this evening.

Ministers Council Adopts Decree

AU2307095090 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 0900 GMT 23 Jul 90

[Text] [Announcer] This morning the Council of Ministers held a session at which it adopted a decree on immediate measures to guarantee public order and calm in the country.

It is stated in the decree that the Executive Committees of Sofia City People's Council and the municipal People's Councils, as well as the law-and-order organs should use their powers to ensure the strict observance of the laws.

An appeal is made to the political forces, citizens, and the whole of the public to assist the state organs in fulfilling this task.

In connection with this decree, we contacted representatives of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, from whom we learnt that we cannot expect an official viewpoint regarding the decree to be issued earlier than 1330 [1030 GMT].

Our reporters also tried to contact representatives of the political forces to ask them to comment on the decree, and learnt that at the moment meetings are in progress in the offices of the Supreme Council of the Bulgarian Socialist Party and the Administrative Council of the Bulgarian National Agrarian Union. We are continuing to try to contact the spokesman of the Union of Democratic Forces.

Is there any change in the capital? Is there any feeling of tension? Our reporter Nina Spasova, who is now in the studio, reports as follows:

[Spasova] I returned a short while ago from a tour of the Sofia streets. The situation is calm. There are no longer any rallies or gatherings in front of the television studio. The citizens protesting in front of the building have dispersed.

In the central Sofia square there are quite a number of people, but the situation is also calm there. However, I noticed that some of the inhabitants of the City of Truth were chanting songs, and from time to time taunts were exchanged between representatives of the tent camp and Young Socialists. However, the guards of the City of Truth are ensuring that the disputes do not exacerbate the situation, and people with megaphones are calling for calm.

I talked to the duty militiamen in the square. They stated that the numbers of people there were no more than previously, and there had been no incidents or reasons for the officers of the Ministry of Internal Affairs to intervene.

National Ethnic Unrest Reviewed

AU2007210690 Sofia BTA in English 2029 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Sofia, 20 Jul (BTA)—The strikes and the protest drives in the regions with mixed population of Bulgarians and Turks are going on. All demands have to do with the ethnical problem and the presence of representatives of the Movement for Rights and Freedoms in the Grand National Assembly.

The effective strike of the supporters of the Committee for the Protection of National Interests in the town of Kurdzhali has been going on for three days now. The strikers have occupied state institutions and blocked the bus and the railway transport. The inflicted damages are estimated to be several millions leva.

Today in the town of Razgrad more than 30 companies, economic organizations and institutions today went on real or token strikes. For half an hour in the morning a section of the highway to Shumen was blocked. The public transport in the town was stopped. Most of the shops are closed.

The building of the court in Shumen is occupied. The bus lines in the town were stopped for several hours. Representatives of the Regional Committee for the Protection of National Interests insist that the Supreme Court should state its grounds for the acquittal of a physician from Shumen who was tried on charges of spying.

The tension in Khaskovo has not eased down. The protest drive has been going on for five days now. The local leadership of the Movement for Rights and Freedoms considers that the responsibility for the present situation should be borne by the managements of the enterprises and the municipal authorities.

Today the Grand National Assembly took a stand on the situation in the country. It is expected that some of the national representatives will visit these regions.

Varna 'National Interests' Group Threatens Strike

AU2107144590 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 0900 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Varna correspondent Georgi Sreshtnikov report—live or recorded]

[Text] In a declaration by the Varna Regional Committee for the Defense of National Interests support is expressed for the effective strikes staged by the regional committees in the country, as well as the Committee's confusion regarding the biased presentation of evident facts and the existing information blackout on events; the deliberate references to Medi Doganov, leader of the Rights and Freedoms Movement [MRF], by other names [Ahmed Dogan]; the extremely brief information broadcast by Bulgarian Television, mainly late in the evening, on the strikes in different towns; and the absence of information on the terrorist acts committed by Bulgarian citizens with a Turkish consciousness.

The committee appeals to the Grand National Assembly and, more precisely, to the parliamentary groups of the individual parties, to stop their endless wrangling and prevent the pro-Turkish and pan-Islamic MRF from calling the tune when it comes down to making decisions.

The Committee has nothing against the Bulgarian citizens professing the Muslim faith who during last summer did not submit to the Pan-Turkic propaganda against our compatriots who returned from Turkey, and who regard Bulgaria as their native land, but at the same time we cannot fail to support all acts and deeds aimed at defending our country, its integrity, and its national interests.

As a committee standing above the parties, we call upon all citizens, movements, and parties which have Bulgaria in their thoughts to join us, just as they did in January this year.

We declare that if the state leadership and the leaderships of the three main parties fail to show understanding concerning this issue, if they fail to issue at least some explanations, and fail to show their desire for lawful measures on the nationality issue, then nothing else will be left for us than to support our brothers from the other cities and towns and to call an effective strike, states the declaration of the Varna Regional Committee for the Defense of National Interests in conclusion.

24-Hour Deadline Set

AU2107200090 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1730 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Text] In Varna today, the Coordinating Council of the Union of Democratic Forces [SDS] held a meeting to discuss the work of the Varna Municipal People's Council, the protest action by the Civil Disobedience Initiative, and the situation in the Varna city center. It then adopted a declaration.

The SDS Coordinating Council in Varna, the declaration states, supports the just demands of the Initiative Committee for Civil Disobedience for full disclosure of the truth concerning the distortions committed by the local nomenklatura, but does not support the form of protest chosen by the committee, because the blocking of traffic in the city center causes unnecessary tensions and discontent among the citizens.

A meeting took place at the municipal People's Council between the representatives of the political parties—the SDS, the Bulgarian Socialist Party, and the Bulgarian National Agrarian Union—the Initiative Committee for Civil Disobedience, and the regional directorate of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Following an exchange of views on the situation in the city, the Varna SDS Coordinating Council issued a declaration and a refutation in connection with the broadcast television report.

After the issue of these two documents and after the strong demand by the representatives of the Initiative Committee for Civil Disobedience to have their standpoint expressed on Bulgarian Television this very evening, it was announced that the protest action was called off.

The committee set a 24-hour deadline, during which it would remain ready to strike and paralyze traffic, if the demands of the Civil Disobedience Movement and the adoption of this extreme form of protest are not publicly announced via the mass media.

Meeting Views Situation Following Student Sit-in

AU2107154290 Sofia BTA in English 1440 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Text] On July 16 Prof. Ivan Slavov opened a meeting of lecturers and students of Sofia University, with the slogan "A Hundred Years are Enough" (Sofia University has a hundred years history). The meeting had to discuss the civic position of the academic community regarding the students' sit-in strike. The dailies wrote that the discussion passed in a non-academic style, with tramping of feet and insults. Rector Academician Nikola Popov and most of the academic leadership members found excuses to leave the meeting. Those who remained in the hall demanded the rector's leadership resignation and expressed the opinion that the oldest higher school in this country is going to split.

Discontented candidate students at the Higher Institute for Decorative Arts occupied last week the building of the Academy of Arts. They think that candidate students' exams were organized for people who had been chosen in advance and insist for a new admittance system for the future artists who are to be educated at the academy. It is said that as from next year the Academy of Arts will admit all interested people against a 6 thousand leva fee.

'National Interests' Committee Holds Sofia Rally

AU2207143490 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 18 Jul 90 p 2

[Text] Sofia, 17 Jul (BTA)—This evening an all-city rally was held by the Committee for Defense of National Interests. In the declaration read at the rally, a protest is made against the continuing indifference on the part of the government to the problems connected with the nationality issue, indifference which has been also demonstrated in the work of the first session of the Seventh Grand National Assembly. The Law on Names has been violated, since at the Kurdzhali District Court the deputy representing the Rights and Freedoms Movement [MRF] is registered as Medi Doganov, not as Ahmed Dogan.

Public-political movements—the MRF, the Glasnost and Democracy Club, "Ecoglasnost," and the Democratic Forum—have announced themselves as parliamentary groups. Only the public's alarm and our just protest have remained, like echoes in the chasm of the information blackout, the declaration states. the antiparliamentary manifestations in the Grand National Assembly have obliged us to resort to actions aimed at forcing the Grand National Assembly to abide by the laws.

The Coordinating Council of the Committee for Defense of National Interests in Kurdzhali has declared an effective strike as a mark of protest, and calls on its members and sympathizers throughout the country for their support.

BSP Announces Burial of Dimitrov's Ashes

AU2207185390 Sofia BTA in English 1700 GMT 22 Jul 90

[Text] Sofia, 22 Jul (BTA)—The BSP [Bulgarian Socialist Party] Supreme Council and parliamentary group see in the existence of Georgi Dimitrov's Mausoleum an expression of dogmatism and cult mythologization, which have brought so much trouble to world Socialist movement.

In relation with tomorrow's burial of Georgi Dimitrov's ashes (his embalmed body was cremated last week) the Socialist Party leadership and Socialist M.P.'s would like to stress that this should long have been done. "Embalmed life" contradicts with the ideas of Dimitrov himself, the Socialist leadership insists.

The BSP Supreme Council and parliamentary group see in Georgi Dimitrov a political figure of major national and international significance. Alongside with that, however, they are not concealing his errors, related with the dramatic character of the time in which he lived.

Giving him his due in the struggle against the burgeoning fascism, the Socialist leadership is of the opinion that in spite of today's political passions, Dimitrov will still remain as a measure of braveness and internationalism.

The BSP Supreme Council and parliamentary group condemn the actions of "irresponsible people", of "people with little civil awareness" as they say, in front of Georgi Dimitrov's mausoleum.

Liquid Fuel Prices Increase 'Nearly Twofold'

AU2207202290 Sofia BTA in English 1843 GMT 22 Jul 90

[Text] Sofia, 22 Jul (BTA)—The growing difficulties in this country's oil supply, a result of the reduced deliveries from the Soviet Union made the government rise liquid fuel prices.

The announcement of the Council of Ministers, given to be circulated reads that the country's forcign currency state does not allow now and in the years to come to supply larger quantities of oil from sources which are not traditional.

The government is also seeking the reasons for the deteriorated state of the liquid fuels market state in the growing consumption, in the non-efficient use, in speculative purchase and sale by Bulgarian and foreign citizens.

Here are the new prices: Petrol A 96 2.40 leva per liter, A 93—1.80, A 86—1.60, Diesel—1.20, gas oil for the population 0.50 leva, propane-butane—0.50 leva. There are also new prices for gas oil for industrial and public utility services purposes.

The prices of liquid fuels have increased nearly twofold.

Prices of fuels in the state-run and public sector are made equal with those of the population aiming to stop speculations and in compliance with the requirement for equity of all types of property.

As far as the companies which produce after prices set by the state, go, a temporary fund for their support is being set up.

The great consumptions of the social projects are planned to be compensated.

Oil Supply, 'Long Lines' Viewed

AU2007125790 Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 17 Jul 90 p 3

[Interview with Kupen Dimov, deputy general director of "Petrol" State Company, by Nevyana Dicheva; place and date not given: "Oil and Petroleum—Issues That Do Not Run Smoothly"]

[Excerpt] [Dicheva] Comrade Dimov, after the USSR Government announcement on decreasing its oil exports by seven million tonnes, something that affects Bulgaria and other CEMA countries, many people obviously became concerned. The long lines in front of the gasoline stations certainly are an indication.

[Dimov] We continue to rely on the USSR in everything related to oil and oil products. The 11 million tonnes per year we receive satisfy the country's needs. However, it is a fact that we still do not know by how much the export

to Bulgaria will be cut. We only know the total amount—seven million tonnes. Things will become clearer when we hear how much our share will be "cut."

The tension in matters related to the supply of gasoline in our country is caused by several quantitative reasons:

The first is the irregularity of supply, caused by transportation and other problems.

There is an additional significant reason—in April, for example, the panic and psychosis related to the fear of imminent price increase, prompted people to horde supplies. However, today we also must take into account certain structural changes in the country's transportation system. Many transportation companies have been established and they practically eliminated the former major economic organizations with their official gasoline stations. More than 70 independent companies left the "Avtotransport" Economic Trust. They insist on paying for their gasoline with checks, and thus, like all of us, they join the lines in front of the "Petrol" gasoline stations, despite the fact that we did everything possible to leave those stations for the exclusive use of the citizens. Consequently, the lines in front of the gasoline stations continue to grow.

There is an additional reason—in Sofia there already are 50 gasoline stations. On the one hand—this is still not enough. On the other—the construction of any new gasoline station immediately evokes protests and dissatisfaction. At the same time practice shows that very few citizens want to get their gasoline outside the city.

In the final analysis, the numbers can serve as evidence: The growth of gasoline demand in 1989 in comparison to 1988 was 90,000 tonnes. In the first five months of 1990, in comparison with the same period in 1989, the growth was 40,000 tonnes. Under such conditions the lines in front of the gasoline stations are a natural consequence.

[Dicheva] Nevertheless, under those conditions, will there be enough gasoline?

[Dimov] There will be gasoline, however, I can not guarantee a regular supply. In recent weeks we received less 96- and 93-octane gasoline, and the stock was exhausted. We have a greater supply of 86-octane gasoline. Therefore until 20 July only 86-octane gasoline will be sold at the gasoline stations. The processing will begin after this date and then the supply will normalize.

[Dicheva] Can you comment on the eternal rumor about increasing the gasoline price?

[Dimov] There will be no price increase on Monday [23 July] or at the beginning of the month. However, if we have to pay for oil and oil products from now on with convertible foreign currency we must live according to the rules of market economy, thus price corrections are to be expected. However, I think that this will certainly be announced in advance. [passage omitted]

Producers 'Concerned' Over 'Shortage'

AU2307081090 Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 18 Jul 90 p 3

[Text] Pleven, 17 Jul (BTA)— Not only drivers in our country, but also gasoline producers are concerned about the current oil shortage. The workers and specialists of the Pleven Petrochemical Plant are alarmed by the fact that the oil processing equipment is not fully exploited which considerably affects the technical reliability of machinery.

The plant is exclusively processing oil delivered from Libya. Engineer Ivan Tonchev, the economic manager of the plant, assures us that the Libyan suppliers are fulfilling their obligations, but the A-86 gasoline produced in the plant also needs low-octane gasoline from the Burgas Petrochemical Plant, and as a result of the difficulties connected with oil deliveries from the USSR, the Burgas plant is capable of producing only 80 percent of its normal diesel, and 60 percent of its normal gasoline output.

The Pleven plant's management is confident that if oil deliveries should return to normal there would be no more reasons for reducing production.

Production at Burgas Refinery Noted

AU2007125890 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 19 Jul 90 p 1

[Mara Georgieva report]

[Text] As we have already reported, the Burgas Petrochemical Combine has started to produce 1,500 tonnes of 93-octane gasoline daily. Is this a large or small amount?

"The daily requirements for 93-octane gasoline are between 1,500 and 2,000 tonnes," said Engineer Khristo Drenkarov, general director of the "Petroleum" Company. "This means that the level of production is more or less normal. As regards the daily requirement for gasoline in general, at the moment the Burgas Petrochemical Combine satisfies about one-third of demand."

Many readers have telephoned our editorial offices to ask whether diplomatic vehicles and cars belonging to foreign tourists have priority in connection with gasoline supplies.

"No priority is given foreign tourists at gas stations," said Engineer Drenkarov. "Under the Instruction on Gasoline Station Operation, which came into force 15 years ago, vehicles belonging to the diplomatic corps enjoy priority. In order not to create precedents, we have announced that special gasoline pumps have been provided for diplomatic cars at two gasoline stations in Sofia."

BSP 'Expected To Stuggle' To Hold Position

AU1907195690 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 13 Jul 90 p 4

[Dilyan Todorov article: "The National Conference of Clubs for Radical Changes Should Be Held By End of August"]

[Text] Our situation today is more difficult than it was yesterday. Yesterday, we knew that we had a specific opponent who was fighting for power and against whom the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP] was expected to struggle in order to preserve its leading position.

Today we are expected to engage in a self-struggle.

This struggle is taking place under the conditions of an unprecedented and growing pressure of the opposition outside the party. The pressure of the street continues. It is part of a strategy whose final goal is to eliminate the BSP as a whole. It is not aimed at overthrowing the party from power, not at sending it into opposition, but at the full disintegration and total elimination of the BSP as a party.

Similar to the people's polarization into "blue" and "red ones" the BSP members are recently more and more categorically divided into radicals and their opponents.

The word "split" weighs like fog over every Socialist obfuscating his sight as regards the future of his party. The feeling of uncertainty, even the fear that the presumed split of the BSP might lead to its total decline, seems to engulf a growing number of people. More and more resolutely, and even with extreme methods, a considerable portion of BSP members are opposing its possible split and the establishment of new parties within the BSP, as was the case of the Alternative Socialist Party.

Even Zhelyu Zhelev does not wish a "major split of the party." According to him, "it is within the interest of the opposition that the reformers should proceed for as long as possible side by side with the Zhivkovists, Stalinists, and neo-Stalinists, with the nomenklatura, and so forth, so that the party should bear its total historical and political burden." (OTECHESTVEN VESTNIK, Issue No. 13496/7, of 7 July 1990). He stresses that "for the BSP, a major split would be a rescuing catharsis." This statement deserves a more intensive analysis; however, even without it, it is a sufficient reason for everyone who is concerned about the fate of the BSP to reflect.

The radicals within the party so far have not said anything that might even vaguely sketch its future development. It seems that they have no clear idea about the party's future image to which they are aspiring, about the methods of implementing their ideas, and about the people who are expected to carry them out.

Organizational work is required for the time being, but educational work is even more important at this moment. For this reason, the scheduling of a conference of radicals for 28 and 29 July is too hasty in my opinion, and will not produce the necessary effect as a stage in the preparations for the party congress. More real is the danger that the situation of the 14th Extraordinary Bulgarian Communist Party Congress might be repeated, when the radicals turned out to be the great minority of delegates and actually failed to influence the final results—namely, the statute and the manifesto which to a great extent reflected a way of thinking which was behind the times. This also determined the belated reactions of the BSP to the ensuing events.

The demand that the process of renewal should be speeded, is correct, but only as much as we should not "lose the initiative." The short time which remains until the beginning of the conference will not be sufficient for the radicals to prepare their programmatic documents. It is, however, through these documents that the remaining, prevailing part of the party shall receive sufficient information about what this left-wing parliamentary party really represents, and about the necessity of its establishment.

Another reason for not speeding the conference is that even if the programmatic documents should be prepared on time, it will be too late to become acquainted with them. Remembering the events of five months ago, we may evaluate the results of such haste. I have in mind the insufficiently prepared documents of the 14th Extraordinary Congress.

ASO National Conference Opens

AU2107144390 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 0900 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Text] The fourth national conference of the Alternative Socialist Association [ASO], a faction of the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP], opened this morning in the Georgi Kirkov Hall in Sofia. Taking part are delegates from all the ASO clubs in the country.

Prof. Ivan Nikolov, chairman of the ASO Operating Council, delivered a political report. He briefly outlined points from the faction's work to date, and analyzed the political situation in the country. Ivan Nikolov stated that ASO supports the appeal of the 12 Socialists concerning setting up a reformist movement within the BSP. The Operating Council recommends that all ASO clubs immediately join in forming municipal clubs of radicals and take an active part in the BSP radicals' conference on 28 and 29 July.

Ivan Nikolov also spoke about the differences in the positions held by the Operating Council and Ivan Kalchev, the editor in chief of the ASO press organ DEN, and dealt in particular with the Kalchev's demand for ASO to collectively leave the BSP. Professor Nikolov stated that neither the Operating Council nor the conference is legally authorized to decide on a collective departure from the BSP. According to the ASO statute, these decisions are not binding either for the clubs or the individual ASO members. Even if only a few members maintain the position that ASO is a BSP faction, ASO will continue to exist.

Several Members Quit BSP

AU2107192290 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1730 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Text] The fourth national conference of the Alternative Socialist Association [ASO], a faction within the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP] took place today in Sofia. Taking part in it were 287 delegates from 76 ASO clubs in the country.

Following stormy debates, Ivan Kalchev, editor in chief of the DEN newspaper, declared that he was leaving the BSP. He was followed by 35 delegates, who walked out of the conference hall.

The remaining delegates adopted a number of documents, including a proposal to the BSP Supreme Council, an appeal to the ASO clubs in the country, and a new draft ASO statute. Valentin Vasev was elected chairman of the faction. He told a representative of the Bulgarian Radio that until the forthcoming BSP Congress, ASO will remain a faction within the party and strive with all its power for the renewal of the BSP.

16 ASO 'Clubs' Vote To Leave BSP

AU2207200090 Sofia BTA in English 1815 GMT 22 Jul 90

["Has ASO Left the BSP?"—BTA Headline]

[Text] Sofia, 22 Jul (BTA)—The Alternative Socialist Association (ASO), faction of the BSP [Bulgarian Socialist Party], has left the socialists' party, one of its representatives insists. Ivan Kalchev, who was thought to be relieved from the position editor-in-chief of DEN said on national TV tonight that 16 clubs of ASO have adopted a decision to leave the BSP.

This has taken place yesterday at the faction's Fourth National Conference, for which DUMA writes today that only 35 people from the 287 delegates from 76 clubs have left the faction.

According to DUMA, Ivan Kalchev backed the reasons for leaving the BSP with the fact that nothing in the party has changed, while radicals in it are a mimicry of the nomenklatura.

We will now work as an association and not as a BSP faction, Ivan Kalchev said on TV and further added that the aim of those who left was to restore the activity of ASO's 100 clubs throughout the country which have disbanded themselves, and strengthen their interaction with parties with Social Democratic orientation and with all democratic organizations.

Ivan Kalchev thinks that DEN is ASO's paper and its relation with the faction, as far as it exists, is rather a moral one. DEN is an independent juridical person and the issue about it will be decided in court, he said.

Youth Union, 'Civil Disobedience' Members Clash

AU2107171890 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 18 Jul 90 p 2

[Dora Chichkova report]

[Text] The square in Sofia with two names [9 September Square and Democracy Square], where military bands used to play during parades, again resounded with band music on 17 July. The "band" consisted of players of tin cans, bells, cymbals, saucepans, metal sheets, and other percussion instruments. Soloists reinforced the effect with discordant cries.

This is how the striking members of the Civil Disobedience Initiative decided to chase away their unwanted neighbors from the Socialist Youth Union.

The Young Socialists are holding a five-day mock political strike as a sign of protest against the street pressure on the Grand National Assembly.

However, the democratic consciousness of the participants in the civil disobedience action was unable to come to terms with their proximity to people who held different views. The initial reaction was in the form of marching and goose-stepping. However, after the participants received applause and red carnations from the tolerant public, the resistance took the form of psychological terror.

The "concert" began a little after midnight. The musicians allowed themselves a break only between 0500 and 0730. From that time onwards, their enthusiasm has steadily grown.

On Monday [16 July], at his meeting with the inhabitants of the new tent city, Yosif Surchadzhiev said that the "City of Truth" dissociated itself from actions of those involved in the civil disobedience action. However, the "City" had nothing to say about the terror to which the striking Young Socialists were being subjected.

DUMA Editor: Opposition Includes 'Informers'

AU1907082990 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 16 Jul 90 p 1

[Commentary by DUMA Editor in Chief Stefan Prodev]

[Text] Let me continue with a subject that is not new for our newspaper. However, why does no one take a stand on it?

At the television news conference on Friday evening [13 July], colleagues asked point-blank whether the television management contained any people who worked for the former Sixth Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Millions of listeners cocked their ears, but the answer was not forthcoming. We did not hear whether or not there were any such people. It was is if the issue was a trifling and irritating one which was of no importance at the time.

I take up this point from the news conference, to raise once again the issue of informers. I consider it to be one of the main moral problems of the youthful Bulgarian democracy. How will we destroy the totalitarian structures if voluntary spies get off scot-free? What kind of "city of truth" is this which some of our naive small-time politicians are discussing, when the "population" of this teeming "city" of their's almost certainly includes some of the "snoops" of yesterday? Immature youths and venerable women rant and rave first against one group, then against another, without the slightest suspicion that their own numbers may include persons ready and willing to show up at the old meeting places with new reports.

The Sixth Department has indeed been closed down, but masses of its informers continue to exist in public life, hiding their agent aliases for better times. I hope that the "city" of tents will forgive me, but it has chosen a strange way to fight for the truth, by turning a deaf ear to DUMA's demand for the unmasking of the informers of yesterday. Even more suspicious is the deafness of the opposition press, which demonstratively asserts that it does not consider this important problem worthy of attention.

It is no secret that many of the informers of the Sixth Department, instead of heaping ashes on their heads, have donned the convenient political colors of the present day. Chameleons stay chameleons. Some have made a noisy show of dissociating themselves from the "gloomy past," others have declared that they were repressed, have become political leaders, or are pretending to be supporters of the "soft revolution," while yet others have started turning out reckless articles against the victims of their own spying. It would be interesting to see the old denunciations published, one after another, with new slanders.

I know that the police also have their own professional ethics, but the ethics of society stand above everything else. The informer cannot be a teacher of the people. He cannot be a leader, parliamentary deputy, chief of an national institute, or the conscience of the nation. This would be catastrophic for Bulgaria's future. The civic society that we want to build is unthinkable without pure morals, without trust in its active figures. This is why the card indexes of the Sixth Department should be opened up. This will be harsh, but just.

Tomorrow, I, as a member of parliament, have to elect leading organs, commissions, ministers, and even the president himself. How will I cast my vote calmly, according to my conscience, when I know nothing about the moral purity of the people for whom I am voting? What if I raise my hand in support of an informer? This is a terrible thought, but it could happen. Then the sea of hands will be covered in shame and dry up.

The issue of the informers is not a political game, but one of the main problems which democracy must resolve if it wants to exist, otherwise we may hand over the fate of the homeland into the power of unworthy people. The GDR and Czechoslovakia have provided an example for us in this respect, and we should follow it. Let the informers and their "creativity" remain in the past, the past of totalitarianism, which they served at the expense of the mass of honorable citizens.

Since DEMOKRATSIYA describes me as some kind of Indian chief, I will permit myself to conclude these troubling thoughts with the laconic remark of the son of the Great Bear: "I have spoken!"

I will be interesting to see what the informers and their patrons will say. I want to hear them. We must hear what they have to say!

Trade Unions Said Unhappy With Agreement

AU2007152190 Sofia BTA in English 1222 GMT 20 Jul 90

["Independent Syndicates Discontented With State Bodies"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, 20 Jul (BTA)—The General Agreement between the Confederation of Independent Syndicates in Bulgaria (CISB), the Government and the National Union of Economic Managers is breached due to the state bodies, as the independent syndicates insist. Today's issue of the trade union paper TRUD runs a qualitative recapitulation of the fulfilment of 47 major clauses of the contract with fixed terms in support of this opinion.

Without making an assessment of the individual problems significance, the fulfillment is as follows: total fulfilment 11, partial fulfilment 13, unfulfilled 19; there are yet to be solved according to set terms 4.

A group of CISB experts stresses in the paper that on Section I of the contract—guaranteeing the practice of a freely-chosen profession and work occupation—the respective clauses are not being fulfilled. There is a general practice to exert rude administrative interference and fire workers as the easiest solution of economic problems. There are no programmes for provision of the fired workers with work. The government is trying to shake free of its responsibility and shift the whole responsibility about the problems' solution to the Union of Economic Managers.

The decree for temporary restriction of the admittance of new citizens in the cities, which contradicts with this country's major law, is still in force.

Section II, concerning the problems about the salary, and the work on the establishment of a system for annual determination of the principles and guarantees for its growth on a national and branch level, is rather dragging. The centralized determination of salaries is still effective. Nothing has been done to determine the salaries on the principle of market economy.

The syndicates' experts give a sad picture about this country's living standards, and stress that living costs have grown by 50 per cent and are still expected to

increase by the end of the year by 100 per cent. Alongside with that, the government has still not voiced official information about the incomes, living standards and the social minimum.

In the section about the living standards and social provision, the government is reproached that it has not done anything to stop the speculations which have spread. The list of goods and services whose prices will not increase in the year, approved by the Council of Ministers, does not protect the families with low incomes. The working out of a new law of taxation on incomes and property is lagging, which is to the interest of the senior nomenklatura and speculators, experts stress.

There are many reproaches in relation with labour conditions and categorization, and it is stressed that there is yet one million people who are continuing to work under conditions which are injurious to health.

Work related with the democratization of the economic activity is feeble.

The daily also carries the project about the basic conditions for indexing the population incomes in compliance with the consumer prices' change, which is not adopted by the government. In relation with that, concern is expressed that the government will hand in its resignation and it is still unknown whether there will be a new one. Living standards of a large part of the population, which are now low anyway, are in the meantime going to deteriorate further.

TRUD writes about the Podkrepa Labour Confederation appeal for joint actions with the independent syndicates. In a declaration Podkrepa backs the demands of the CISB. The the two trade unions will cooperate with each other if: The party "of the able" and "competent" (meaning the BSP) [Bulgarian Socialist Party] does not take the country out of the crisis, if the communist majority in parliament does not proceed immediately to the formation of a new government, if the latter does not table immediately the principles of an economic reform for discussion at the Grand National Assembly and if the Grand National Assembly does not meet the Podkrepa and the independent syndicates' demands and does not demand the whole truth about the country's grave economic situation, as well as responsibility from the culprits.

M.P.'s Campaign To Change State Emblem, Flag

AU2107185690 Sofia BTA in English
1742 GMT 21 Jul 90

["Coat of Arms and Flag Facing Change?"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, 21 Jul (BTA)—After the initiative of Ventsislav Buchvarov, a SDS [Union of Democratic Forces] M.P. from Plovdiv, the collection of signatures began demanding the motioning of a bill for change of the Constitution texts concerning the Coat of Arms and the flag. As many as 109 M.P.'s from the four parliamentary factions have already put their signatures under this proposal.

It is expected that the proposal will be tabled on Tuesday [24 July].

The Constitution requires a one-month period for an eventual change in the country's major law. A number of proposals have been made lately for de-ideologization of the state symbols.

Election Commission's Popov on Future Government

AU2107200590 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian
18 Jul 90 p 2

[Text] On Bulgarian Television yesterday [17 July], Dimitur Popov, chairman of the Sofia City Court and secretary of the Central Electoral Commission, outlined four alternative forms for the future government.

The best alternative—a coalition government with solid parliamentary support—will be difficult to achieve, although it is the best one for the country.

In Dimitur Popov's view, the most advantageous form that is likely is a government of specialists. However, it too must enjoy the support of parliament. Such support might be secured by an "ground-floor" agreement. This is also the way toward a possible future coalition.

A caretaker government, which is the other likely alternative, would have limited possibilities; it would deal with current business and prepare for new elections. The likelihood of a single-party government is extremely slim.

Dimitur Popov said that Andrey Lukanov would probably be asked to take soundings concerning the new government. Tomorrow or on the next day [19 or 20 July] he is expected to tender the resignation of the previous government and be asked to continue to exercise his functions until the new government is formed.

IAEA Deputy Director Inspects Nuclear Reactors

AU2007205790 Sofia BTA in English
1939 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Sofia, 20 Jul (BTA)—Mr Maurice Rosain, deputy director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) paid a visit here. He said that the IAEA had sent a group of experts to Bulgaria to familiarize themselves with the problems of the Kozloduy Nuclear Power Plant and the construction of the Belene Nuclear Power Plant. They will see for themselves if the platforms are enough safe for exploitation and will check their seismic safety.

In October another group of IAEA experts will inspect the new reactors in Kozloduy and check every aspect of their exploitation from the management to the ability of the nuclear power plant operators to do their work, from the reliability of the radiation protection to the measures to be taken in case of an accident.

Today Mr Rosain had a meeting with Mr Chudomir Aleksandrov, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers.

'In Name of Truth' Movement Established

AU2207185590 Sofia BTA in English
1728 GMT 22 Jul 90

[Text] Sofia, 22 Jul (BTA)—A Movement "In The Name of Truth" has been founded. It unites people who irrespective of their political views and ethnic belonging give priority to morals and human values. The movement's Chart was signed by 65 intellectuals: Professors, scientific workers, men of art. They are living in the "Town of Truth" in Sofia.

The idea about this movement came after "towns of truth" were founded in yet a few more towns. The Sofia "Town of Truth" came as a continuation of the students' strike and backed its demands: To give information about the abuses during the elections and voice the results of the expertise of the video-tape which discredits Petur Mladenov with his remark. Later, there were more demands which in general wanted the whole truth about the situation in this country. M.P.'s from various factions acknowledged the right of the "Town of Truth" get a reply from the Grand National Assembly.

Thus, the demonstrators would like to know, for instance, what happened on November 10, 1989, after Zhivkov had been toppled.

MRF Deputies Urge Turkish Ship Incident Inquiry

AU2007205390 Sofia BTA in English
1929 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Sofia, 20 Jul (BTA)—The national representatives of the Movement for Rights and Freedoms (MRF) have made a declaration in which it is said that they have in their possession reliable information evidencing that the KINTEX Company, through its subsidiaries, is carrying out the illegal transfer of goods for Turkey by using Turkish craters which are ensured illegal access to Bulgaria's ports.

In connection with the announcement made by the press that some Turkish vessels have violated Bulgaria's territorial waters, the MRF national representatives express their decisive protest against any violation of the country's sovereignty and propose to set up immediately a commission of competent persons who will investigate the circumstances in which the state frontier was violated and the possible connection of this act with the illegal activity mentioned above.

Private Business Delegation Visits Brussels

AU2107161690 Sofia BTA in English
1411 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Text] Brussels, 21 Jul (BTA corr.)—A delegation of the Union of Economic Initiative of the Citizens in Bulgaria paid a visit here.

At a meeting with senior officials at the Foreign Relations General Department of the Commission of the European Community, representatives of the commission stressed that a substantial amount of the assistance planned to be lent Bulgaria by the Economic Community will be directed towards the establishment of the private business. They said the European Community has already allotted assistance which will soon be received through the Agrarian Bank in Sofia and added that the future assistance will mostly pass through the first private bank.

The issue of signing of a frame contract for cooperation between the centre and the Union of Economic Initiative of the citizens was discussed at a meeting with responsible officials in the World Trade Centre (WTC) in Brussels. This contract should be concluded within two months and should provide opportunities for the building of joint enterprises and training of cadres for the Bulgarian economy.

During a talk held between the delegation and representatives of the Belgian Agrarian Union "Burenbond" the Belgian side showed keen interest in Bulgaria as a country of good possibilities for agricultural produce, but "Burenbond" is, for the time being, abstaining from significant investments as issues related to land ownership in Bulgaria and the limits for foreign investments are still to be clarified.

The delegation held talks in the sphere of banking with representatives of General de Banque and Banque Bruxelles Lambert. They reached an agreement in principle for Belgian cooperation in the preparation of Bulgarian bank experts. The two Belgian banks showed readiness to do the payments in ECU [European Currency Units] at most favourable conditions for the first private bank.

UK's Maxwell Wants To Strengthen Business Ties

AU2107195090 Sofia BTA in English
1855 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Text] Sofia, 16 Jul (BTA)—Robert Maxwell, the prominent British businessman who is paying a visit here, foresees a possibility for an early understanding between the major political forces on the issue about this country's government. This evening's statements of the guest made for Bulgarian and foreign journalists made it clear that his talks today with representatives of the interested parties have made him an optimist regarding this possibility. When there is such kind of understanding, not only the Maxwell empire but other businessmen and friendly governments, too, will maintain their interest in Bulgaria, the British magnate stressed.

Robert Maxwell said that as a friend of Bulgaria he is not participating in the country's political struggles, that his hopes are related with the development of pluralism and democracy. He said that if democracy is long to come, he would vanish, as would do others, too.

The guest spoke about common plans of cooperation and diplomatically dodged journalists' hints about his connections with the former regime and particularly with

Todor Zhivkov. He also said that former Politburo member and secretary of the CC [Central Committee] of the BCP [Bulgarian Communist Party] Ognyan Doynov will work for him. Ognyan Doynov will be his adviser and will deal with Africa, Robert Maxwell said.

The British businessman spoke about his activity as a donor related with the delivery of 1,000 tons of newsprint in the pre-election period, of medicines and children's foods. Alongside with that he broached on a number of projects for cooperation in the sphere of mass media and tourism, to which he gives priority in the foreign debt payment and printing activity.

It was reported that he has spoken today with former president Petur Mladenov. Maxwell said Petur Mladenov made a great sacrifice by handing in his resignation.

Economic Negotiations With Japan Held in Sofia

AU2007144390 Sofia BTA in English
1357 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Sofia, 20 Jul (BTA)—Will Japan make investments in Bulgaria? This will become known when the delegation of the Japanese Labour Efficiency Centre, who are paying a visit here, familiarize the Japanese Government with the results of their study.

Today in the capital the Japanese guests headed by Mr. Massao Kamey, vice president of the Managing Committee of the Japanese Labour Efficiency Centre, had talks with a Bulgarian delegation headed by Mr. Lyubomir Dachev, deputy minister of industry and technology. The talks centred on the situation of the Bulgarian economy and industry, the implementation of the economic reforms and the problems of labour efficiency in the industrial sphere.

Special attention was paid to the spheres where most urgent aid is needed and to the priorities of the future industrial development.

Calfa Issues Government Statement on Tiso Plaque

LD2007154190 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1400 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] [Reporter Lubos Lidicky] The last hour here in parliament were devoted to a debate on the reply by Premier Marian Calfa to an interpellation by Deputy Michal Prokop on unveiling the memorial plaque to Jozef Tiso. Premier Marian Calfa said in his introduction that the interpellation, although it had been addressed to three ministers and was not under their competence, was so significant that the government analyzed it. That is why he delivered the statement, which we now broadcast in full:

[Begin Calfa recording] The statement of the government of the CSFR: On 9 July of this year, a memorial plaque to Jozef Tiso was unveiled at the building of the former Teacher Training Institute at Banovce nad Bebravou. Its text is, no doubt, a celebration of the personality of this politician. Attention was drawn to this fact and its consequences in an interpellation by a deputy of the Federal Assembly, Mr. Michal Prokop. The CSFR Government, at its session on 19 June 1990, adopted this statement: The placement of the memorial plaque glorifying the activity of a person who was put on the list of war criminals by the victorious powers of the World War II and who was judged by an objective court has no precedent in Europe. This fact damages the good name of our country abroad, and has become a black mark in our efforts to create a democratic society and a legal state. Dr. Jozef Tiso has direct responsibility for the suffering and death of scores of thousands of people. The political regime that he represented was in our history a completely exceptional mouthpiece of national and racial intolerance. The personal responsibility of Jozef Tiso for the crimes against the Slovak people and people of other nationalities cannot be disputed. The celebration of this politician signifies an endorsement of the inhuman policy of discrimination, persecution, imprisonment, murder, and genocide. No illumination of history can forget these facts, which are in direct contradiction to the traditions of our peoples, their culture, and their love for democracy and humanism. The CSFR Government turns on this occasion to all citizens, political movements, and parties.

We are entering an exceptionally sensitive period of our history, when the freedom and well-being of all of us, as well as our descendants, depends on our success in performing a very complicated economic and social maneuver. We are therefore appealing to everyone who is honest in speaking of devotion to this country that they responsibly weigh their actions. Inciting political, national, and social passions can complicate the solutions to the extremely grave social problems with which we are struggling. Let us teach each other mutual respect and tolerance. Let us not spoil the atmosphere of society by deeds that offend the conscience, whether it be that of individuals, groups, or entire nationalities and peoples. Unveiling the memorial plaque to Jozef Tiso was an irresponsible and offensive act of that nature. The federal government is fully aware of the political and moral ramifications of unveiling the memorial plaque to Jozef Tiso. A factual solution to the above problem is under the competence of the organs of the Slovak Republic, to whom we have communicated our attitude. Thank you. [end recording]

Calfa Views Prospects for Economic Transition

LD2007161990 Hamburg DPA in German 1334 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Prague (DPA)—Further price hikes will be unavoidable on the way toward a market economy in Czechoslovakia. This is the view stated to DPA on Friday [20 July] in an interview given by the CSFR Prime Minister Marian Calfa. Yet at the same time new paths and opportunities are opening up for foreign capital in Czechoslovakia. In the last few days fuel prices rose by 50 percent and food prices by up to 100 percent.

The buying power of the Czechoslovak crown will increase in the future, Calfa said. However, the bureaucracy will have to be relaxed to achieve this. After food and gas, rents will also go up; but the state will sell apartments to its citizens. Because the radical change from a planned to a market economy will not occur without "victims," apartments for the socially disadvantaged will also have to be built, the prime minister said. Social security can only be made dependent on economic possibilities. One thing is sure: The safeguards in the social welfare network will first have to be reduced.

But the first priority is improving work morale, Calfa said. There is no simple recipe for overcoming the sorry economic state of the country. The times when the people were told what they should do are over. People must learn to make their own decisions.

The government in Prague is in touch with Western governments to get advice on this transition. This applies not only to economic changes, but also to ecological ones, the politician said. The environmental aspect has been neglected for decades. The CSFR wants to invest a lot in railways in connection with this.

Calfa on Economy, Government Role

LD2107162890 Prague Television Service in Czech 1730 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Interview with Premier Marian Calfa by editors Nada Petrova and Jan Zeleny on the "Television Journal" program on 20 July; place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] We have been introducing to you federal government ministers during the Czechoslovak "Television Journal" program. Editors Nada Petrova and Jan Zeleny are today visiting Premier Marian Calfa. There is no need to introduce him, but we have come to talk, and thus I shall ask a very informal question. We have gone through times when the government was being

composed—that was quite exciting; we have gone through debates in parliament—that initially looked like an absolute disaster, but later, quite surprisingly, the government became trusted. You started your rule and we have gone through price increases, oil price shocks; all that is connected with this.

[Calfa] I must say that the first two weeks did not represent the best path toward the new rule, in view of the circumstances—above all international economic circumstances—which gave rise to the need to decide upon sharp increases in the price of oil, which represents the first stage of a price hike for oil and crude oil. On the other hand, there is a new government of which 50 percent of its members are new, and very little time has passed for us to judge what this government will be like, in what atmosphere it will work, or how its decision-making will turn out. Personally, I am full of expectations. I think that both the Federal Assembly and the government have enough time ahead of them—two years actually—in order to stabilize both its rule and relations between the government and the Federal Assembly and to put them on some good basis.

[Zeleny] Mr. Premier, we have been through oil purchase fever, and now we have the same situation with laundry detergent; this shows the people's trust in the government. What is your impression?

[Calfa] Well, I would like to talk about trust. This is a very strange situation. As to oil and gasoline, the situation has been explained on television, and I think that at the moment one has to repeat this: We feel that the situation is under control. We have even been capable of safeguarding normal gasoline sales [words indistinct] up to the first half of August. At the same time, we were preparing all sorts of possible purchases from abroad, so that with a little goodwill, these matters could be developed in a completely different way. However, as to the laundry detergent crisis, which is now being highlighted in the newspapers—this is an understandable situation—there is enough washing powder. We were not at all thinking about increasing prices of laundry detergent. It is a rumor which people react to very sensitively, and we are facing the decision as how to react to it. We have three possibilities: either not to react, to increase the price of laundry detergent, as some newspapers tell us—if only to overcome this panic buying—or reduce the prices of laundry detergents to enable those who had previously hoarded detergent to have the detergent at home [as heard].

[Petrova] Which of the possibilities will you choose?

[Calfa] Strictly speaking, we want a normal situation, but we shall follow the development of these sales, and strictly speaking, we shall decide on either the second or the third option. We shall certainly not ignore the situation. It is a broader problem, and it is a matter of trust in the government.

[Petrova] We have read comments in the foreign press, whomever it may have been inspired by, that your government will not last to the end of the year. Is that why it will not be able to cope with the increasing economic difficulties? What is your reply?

[Calfa] Naturally, I have heard about this. It is somewhat broader and more general, I mean the position of the government and the position of the communication media and personalities. Well, I think that one has to seek some sort of an objective level, because one has to find a point of departure, in that our people read newspapers and have learned to trust what is appearing in the communication media. This is not altogether valid today, so much so that certain deliberations are held over the position of the government, although they are not balanced and negative features prevail. Naturally, this destabilizes the position of the government in the eyes of our citizens, but I do not think that it destabilizes the position of the government objectively.

[Zeleny] Despite this, I should like to revert to this problem. Apart from the fact that foreign press has published the views of the president's press spokesman, there is also a lot of information to the effect that the president has set up some sort of a shadow cabinet. Do you think that today the standard of relations between the federal government and the Castle is at an optimal level?

[Calfa] The fact that the president has set up a new cabinet—well, I would rather say that the presidential office is being set up— the point of departure is the position of the president as established in the Constitution. Until now the president performed only duties of protocol, but if you look at the Constitution, the president has the right to deliver reports on the situation in Czechoslovakia in the Federal Assembly, has the right to chair the government, has the right to demand viewpoints from the government, and has a certain right to take part in the affairs of Czechoslovakia. In order to be able to perform these roles, he must have an apparatus for the purpose. Until now the presidential office did not perform these duties, and thus naturally there were no people to look after these affairs for the president. So I see nothing strange in that. On the contrary, this fulfills the constitutional possibilities of our president.

[Zeleny] To come back to the question of trust, Mr. Premier; we, as journalists, play a considerable role in this matter. I would say that the situation of journalists today is a little different than the position of the government, but it is certainly not enviable. There are two types of danger. At a time when we support the government policy in an overly official manner, and in an overly unequivocal manner, we will in fact help induce some sort of mistrust toward the government because the people will tell one another that it is not all right, and God knows what it means if everybody is saying the same thing. At a time when we are criticizing, of course, we create a certain danger; namely, that if the criticism is too frequent, or ill-considered, or not very proportionate, so to speak, we also undermine the trust. To strike a balance is the most important thing for us, as it

is for the communication media at the moment. How do you view the communication media and journalists?

[Calfa] As you know, personally I think that you journalists and the communication media are ahead of your time. They are ahead of the consumers of the communication media. Newpapers of various sorts have now appeared in our country, from gutter press to very serious newspapers. I am not sure if our citizens are ready, so to speak, to consume and to distinguish what is truly being presented to them. From this point of view we consider it very important to have a certain degree of seriousness and objectivity. I am not at all against criticism. I would of course be very glad if things were shown objectively; this means if there is criticism on the one hand, then on the other hand I would consider it normal and proportionate to be commended on something in which we succeeded, and which our citizens accepted and which functions. What I see, however, especially in the past few years, is that this very delicate balance has not existed.

[Petrova] Mr. Premier, I, as a citizen and a journalist, very much miss the information from the government, especially some kind of continual information from the government. Do you think that the government, as well as you personally, contact journalists often and openly enough in order to enable honest information about all this?

[Calfa] Naturally, there is the question of what is very often, but I would say that recently less is appearing on television and more in the newspapers. I would say that one has to sum up and assess these matters and basically put them right. Well, we think that obviously the most powerful communication medium is television, and therefore it should provide greater scope to the government. We endorse this. It would be necessary to organize this in one way or another. That is one thing. The second thing is that the influx of information is vast. One has to distinguish very distinctly what is sufficiently significant in our work for it to be announced, what is less important and does not have to be announced, what is completely unimportant, and what is information at the disposal of member of the government only—that is their work. Unfortunately, the problem is to distinguish all this, inasmuch as what we do not consider significant is considered significant by others—this had been happening until recently, and there was a lot of criticism about that. So—and here there is no ill intention—what I want is some kind of rational cooperation.

[Zeleny] Mr. Premier, I would like to ask a question somewhere on the borderline of external economic relations and foreign policy. This country is connected, so to speak, almost by an umbilical cord with the USSR. The economy is based on how raw materials, power resources, and so on are being delivered to Czechoslovakia. What is the level of contact with the USSR at the moment? Ministers Dlouhy and Klaus have indicated that the situation in the USSR is such that any talks are difficult. Are you of the same opinion?

[Calfa] Well, the situation in Czechoslovakia is truly exceedingly difficult. What we have is a rebirth of this society, which is being accompanied by poor working morale and discipline. There are tense relations between some republics, which is being reflected in the economic sphere—spare parts are not being delivered to the proper places—and so on. We also saw this in extracting oil. However, I must say that the Soviet market is vitally important to us. We have no other market at our disposal in Europe. This market is vast, but it is not saturated. This is one thing. Second, naturally and historically, Czechoslovakia depends on Soviet raw materials. This is not very good, for no dependency is very good. Here we have an almost 100-percent dependency, in some communities completely 100 percent. Therefore, we are striving, completely logically, to limit this dependence by trying to acquire alternative resources. Everything requires investments and both time and resources.

It is for all these reasons that one arrives at the conclusion that it is necessary and natural to maintain contacts with leading Soviet officials. Minister Stracar will go there next week to reach agreements on a number of things for this half year and for developments in the coming years. These talks will not be easy. We have a huge credit there, and the talks about it being interpreted in freely convertible terms are difficult—because as of 6 January we are transferring to a freely convertible currency and world prices—and all this is being reflected in mutual relations. I personally believe that we should not burden economic and trade relations with historical and political relations. We should separate them now.

[Zeleny] At the same time, we are to import up to 2 billion rubles worth of oil, and further millions and billions are to be spent on other raw materials, such as iron ore, other ores, and so on. Do you think that we will be able to offer billion dollar values in our engineering consumer goods?

[Calfa] The problems are much more complicated. We must realize that the input of raw materials into Czechoslovak industry must be lowered. That is a vitally important matter. It must be decreased considerably so that the volumes should not be at the stage at which they are now. We have counted the credit which we have now—whether we pay for deliveries of crude oil at world prices, which is in fact three times today's prices of oil from the USSR—so that it will last approximately two to three years. Thus, this is the period where we have to carry out the restructuring of our industry so that we can withdraw the input of oil to the level of financial possibilities at our disposal. The Soviet market is fairly closed for the time being, and it is therefore difficult to introduce our engineering products. That is why, in fact, all the documents that we have in evidence and the effort that we want to exert should make it possible for us to open up the market to our engineering production. This is where things are not ripe yet.

[Zeleny] I should like to revert to the question of the USSR and narrow down the topic, so to speak. One of

the regular problems of Soviet development is national conflict and tensions. We have always watched this, so to speak, from a distance; when trouble started in Armenia, in Azerbaijan, just as all the way around us—in Romania. Now we are in a situation which is much different than any of us could have imagined, and these matters are apparent in a different way. I should like to ask what sort of problems or apprehensions you have from the viewpoint of the federal government and federal organs, inasmuch as the conflicts among the national republics and federal organs are beginning to acquire considerably large dimensions.

[Calfa] Well, I would describe the situation as follows: There are conflicts of considerable dimensions. One has to realize one thing: We have jumped ahead of the course of development. Europe and the development of the peoples, however, had centuries at their disposal in order to sort themselves out in one way or another, to form an organization that is suitable to them so that they might create some kind of coexistence in some kind of a state organization, so that some kind of an autonomy in some kind of a state entity might be organized, and so on. In this way we are regressing. We have defined this in such a way, together with representatives of the governments of the republics, that we should in fact arrive at the beginning, at the threshold of the federation, all the way to where there is another step to the confederation or the independence of republics.

The art is not to step over this threshold but to get to the base and to start, because there is goodwill on either side, and to start from the very beginning again, to truly build the federation according to one's own ideas, but from below, and at the will of the republics. If this is a natural process, and it must start by our returning from the federation to republics—this formally and legally means transferring efficiency back to the republics—if during this process we arrive at the beginning and start building the federation, I think that the development is logical, that it is correct, and, as I am being assured by representatives of the republics, or at least the main political forces, that it is within their own interest. I do not see anything unnatural in this. The problem is the preparation of the federal constitution as well as the two republican constitutions. These matters should appear there, so we have a considerably short time for this—in fact only two years.

[Zeleny] Mr. Premier, how quickly should the government discuss the law on privatization. Obviously, this is one of the key points of the economic reform. There is a long time to wait for these. Foreign partners are more than impatient.

[Calfa] We are all impatient—foreign partners, and so on. There are also a lot of impatient people in our country. I must say that we are impatient here in the government. We had a government session yesterday where we discussed these matters. I even mentioned dividing this into stages and attempting to create some kind of a basis for a very rapid privatization in the second half of the year in some industries—I had in mind the services sector, the accommodation sphere, and the sphere of restaurant and canteen services, and so on, so that we might progress ahead of irrational conversations. True, they are necessary, but for the time being they are only conversations, deliberations, and so on. If we are to proceed to a completely specific practice, then we have enough clever people who are waiting for these possibilities. So that is what we are striving for.

[Zeleny] Mr. Premier, this government has two more years in power. Where would you like to sail on board the Czechoslovak ship—figuratively speaking—in order to leave happy, or would you in fact leave in two years' time?

[Calfa] I would like to say that this government has two years to go, both formally and legally. This government of course is responsible to the Federal Assembly, and the Federal Assembly will assess its activity, in essence permanently, so it is up to the Federal Assembly whether of not it will maintain its mandate to the very end. This is the first thing I want to say. But let us return to the question. It is, in fact, my own personal confession—what we would like to do in the next two years. In two years we would like to perform a true restructuring of our industry. We would like to lay down the foundations of various branches and to clear [illegible] it be known what has and what does not have a perspective in Czechoslovakia. If we manage to do this we will say that a good piece of work has been done. I think that in two years' time, there should be a firm private sector in Czechoslovakia. It should be developed, above all, in spheres about which I have already spoken.

I think that in the next two years we should progress much further toward a unification of the political system in Czechoslovakia, beacuse in two years' time there will be new elections. This means no one will have to organize anew relations between states and state organizations. In two years' time we should have a stable local state organization, [word indistinct] autumn. In the end, in two years' time we should look like partners—in relation to the rest of the world—who are truly committed to the economy, according to the new qualitative rules. We should progress in relations with the EC, so that in two years' time there should be no military bloc of the Warsaw Pact type. All this together is fused into the question of whether or not you can undertake a proper qualitative step or jump forward. If we can note this in two years' time, then we will be able to resign after the elections.

[Petroval] Mr. Premier, allow me a purely personal question. People are talking not only about price increases, but also about deputies' salaries in the Federal Assembly. You are the federal premier, but, at the same time, you are a deputy to the Federal Assembly. You said a while ago that you intend to remain a deputy. In order to prevent new conjectures surrounding your person, what will happen to your income?

[Calfal] Not only my salary, but also with the influence of each member of the government who is a deputy. A

government member who is a deputy cannot claim any benefits as a deputy of the Federal Assembly, so that members of the government do not intend to remain deputies in order to receive other benefits. What happens is that they just have more duties and only the salary of government members.

[Zeleny] In conclusion, I propose, Mr. Chairman [as heard], we talked about the public being informed and about how the communication media can or cannot help the government. The president has "Talks From Lany"; Dr. Pithart, the Czech premier, is camping, so to speak, in Sunday topics, and people are used to listening to his words about the work of the Czech Government. I should like to offer you, as premier of Czechoslovak Television, some kind of a regular opportunity—If you wanted to share your troubles with your viewers—to appear on television from time to time and say something on television.

[Calfa] So that I could be camping, so to speak, in one program. I think that this is a relatively rational idea; in the long run it has somewhat stemmed from today's conversation. I think that we could try it, when this period is over, and after some reasonable interval we could have a look at some complex problems and not just talk about a multitude of things, but talk rationally, so that we might communicate some basic information to our [word indistinct]. I think that would be a good idea.

[Zeleny] So beginning in September, we will think of a program for the federal premier, and we can promise the viewers that we will return later to what we could not cover today. Thank you for your kind reception.

Calfa on Energy Costs, Ethnic Issues

LD2007211790 Prague CTK in English 2009 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Prague July 20 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Prime Minister Marian Calfa said over television tonight that the Soviet market is of vital importance for Czechoslovakia.

He stressed that the Soviet market is huge and unsaturated and Czechoslovakia's dependence on Soviet raw materials was being built historically.

The premier pointed out that the Czechoslovak Government strives to limit this dependence, trying to gain other resources. This requires time and means. The premier emphasized, however, that it is necessray to continue to keep contacts with Soviet leading officials and that, in his view, economic and trade relations should not be influenced by historical and political relations.

In connection with the increase in the oil prices, Marian Calfa said that Czechoslovakia's consumption of power resources must lower. If Czechoslovakia paid oil supplies in world prices, which is in fact three times more than the present price of oil from the Soviet Union, its credit in the Soviet Union would last only two to three years. Within this period, Czechoslovakia must restructure its industry.

Speaking about ethnic relations in Czechosloavkia, Marian Calfa expressed the opinion that the country returns back. It should get at the beginning, at the very threshold of federation and start to build federation according to its ideas, according to the will of the republics.

The influence is being transferred from federation to the republics. If this process will bring Czechoslovakia to that beginning and then the country will start to build federation, this development is logical and right, the premier said.

As regards the pace of privatization, Marian Calfa said that foreign partners and the government itself are impatient. He added that his cabinet will strive to make the process as quick as possible. Within the next two years, the government wants to restructure the industry, develop the private sector, make progress in changes of the political system, newly set up relations of the state and non-state bodies and stabilize local state administration.

In its relation with the world, Czechoslovakia should look like a partner that maintains new rules in the economy and should also make progress in its relation with the European communities, Marian Calfa stressed, voicing the hope that two years later there will be no military bloc in Europe.

Dlouhy on Gasoline Shortage, Impact

AU2007142790 Prague HOSPODARSKE NOVINY in Czech 18 Jul 90 p 4

[Milan Srb report: "An Interview with V. Dlouhy"]

[Text] Immediately after the federal government meeting, we asked CSFR Minister Vladimir Dlouhy for an interview. We asked him whom the new prices will affect and whether oil product prices will also increase. "The prices are the same for everyone who buys at wholesale prices," responded V. Dlouhy, and he continued: "Of course, the prices of all the oil products will be changed. The task is to alleviate the impact of prices. The modification of prices is not directed toward the population only. We know that the 50-percent hike is a sensitive matter, but we also want to redistribute it equally into the production sphere. The drop in Soviet oil deliveries and, in addition, a large delay during the construction of Bratislava Hydrocracking unit project cause significant problems in the gasoline balance. Yet, we are still capable of solving them. By utilizing federal material reserves, by importing gasoline for the means provided by the government in recent months (almost one billion korunas), and by implementing price changes, we are able to cover the deficit caused by the shortfall in Soviet oil imports (it is estimated that it will attain some 80,000 tonnes by the end of August).

When asked how he estimates development until the end of this year, V. Dlouhy responded: "Another deficit will appear during September to December, because, apparently, the Soviet oil deliveries will continue to drop—we assume by 2.5 million tonnes as compared to the plan. If

the hydrocracking unit is put into operation during September, which is very important, then the deficit will be some 40,000 tonnes of gasoline. We will have to import this quantity from countries with convertible currency. As far as diesel fuel is concerned, if we bridge a certain period by taking a loan from the federal material reserves, then, on the contrary, we should have some surplus. The deficit in heating oil will be about 430,000 korunas (all numbers are estimates). After that we will have to import more crude oil for convertible currency, which can lead to a mild increase in debt. This should not represent, however, a destabilizing intervention in the running of our economy. I repeat again, if we put the hydrocracking unit into operation, if we use the released money owed to us by other countries [deblokace], if the whole of the economy reacts, and if consumption drops due to increased prices, then we will be able to master the situation. In our considerations for next year, we are already reckoning with more cutbacks in Soviet crude oil deliveries (we have received the first signals to this effect). The negotiations remain open, however; in a short time, there will be a long-awaited meeting with the Gosplan director Maslyukov. We also expect that as of September crude oil could flow through the Adria oil pipeline. It would be paid for by the money owed to us by other countries [deblokace].

Soviet Crude Oil Cuts Detailed

AU2007130090 Prague SVOBODNE SLOVO in Czech 17 Jul 90 p 1

["(fuk)"-signed report: "A Critical Situation"]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] How much crude oil are we going to get? This is the question that our reporter asked Eng. Martak, candidate of science, Ministry of Foreign Trade section director:

"The USSR signed a contract for 16.6 million tonnes at the beginning of this year. During the first half of the year, deliveries were cut by 1,024 million tonnes due to troubles in production. We were assured, however, that the deficit will be made up for by the end of the year, which was realistic. Last Saturday [14 July], N. Ryzkov declared at the CPSU congress that, in view of the shortage of fuel needed for the harvest, the USSR will cut its deliveries to Europe by seven million tonnes. So far, we have received no official statement from the Soviet side.

"During working meetings we have received unofficial data—the deliveries to the former East bloc countries will be lowered by 30 percent and to the capitalist countries by 10 percent. The single fact, to be confirmed so far, is that in July we will receive 989,000 tonnes of crude oil instead of 1.4 million tonnes.

"There are several solutions. We can import crude oil from somewhere else, but the problem is that the refineries are built for processing crude oil of a certain quality and they are unable to process a different quality. It would be more convenient to import oil products. This will, however, be decided by the federal government. Minister Stracar is leaving for Moscow next week to find out, among other things, whether the deliveries will be increased after the harvest." [passage omitted]

New Gasoline, Diesel Fuel Prices Detailed

AU2007132290 Prague SVOBODNE SLOVO in Czech 18 Jul 90 pp 1, 4

[Unattributed report: "New Prices of Gasoline and Diesel Fuel"]

[Text] Starting at midnight on Wednesday, 18 July, new prices of motor vehicle gasoline and diesel fuel will come into force. The price of "Special" grade gasoline was set at 12 korunas per liter, that of "Super" and "Natural" grade gasoline at 13.50 korunas per liter, and that of diesel fuel at 9 korunas per liter. The decision on the 50 percent price increase was made by the federal government yesterday, within the framework of measures necessitated by the cut in crude oil deliveries from the Soviet Union. The government's resolution simultaneously states that the increase in fuel prices will have no impact on fares in mass public transport which the government approved on 11 May.

The minister of finance has been assigned the task of projecting the price increase into the budgets of organizations in health care, education, and the social sphere. He has also been instructed to ensure, in cooperation with the minister of labor and social affairs and following agreement with the respective national committees, that the impact of the adopted price measures on disabled citizens who depend on their own private vehicles will be softened.

As of 1 September, there will also be new wholesale prices of crude oil and oil derivatives. Even earlier, starting on 1 August, a tonne of heavy heating oil will cost 2,760 korunas, a tonne of light heating oil 3,640 korunas, and a tonne of asphalt 3,180 korunas. The price of aviation fuel will increase to 4,020 korunas per tonne.

Effective 1 August, a ban will also come into force on any exports of motor vehicle gasoline, diesel fuel, and light and heavy fuels. By the end of July the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs will amend the decree on compensation for the use of road motor vehicles.

Parliament Adopts Law on Deputies' Salaries

LD2007175290 Prague CTK in English 1534 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Prague July 20 (CTK)—The Czechoslovak Federal Assembly today approved a law on salaries and expenditures of its deputies.

The deputies will monthly receive 7,000 crowns as salaries, 4,000 crowns for covering other expenditures and 2,000 crowns as travelling expenses.

The debates on the law on the salaries of deputies to the Federal Assembly were accompanied by great attention

of the Czechoslovak press. The professionalization of the Czechoslovak highest legislative body, which ensures to the deputies salaries approximately four times higher than salaries of other people, does not exclude that they continue to hold their previous positions for which they will also receive salaries.

According to the original proposal, the salaries of deputies to the Czechoslovak parliament were to amount to even 17,000 crowns. The Czechoslovak Government stated at its yesterday's session that the proposed height of the salaries of deputies leaves the line of the present framework of the Czechoslovak economic system and legal order.

The height of the salaries proposed by deputies was sharply criticized by the Czechoslovak press. The independent midday paper EXPRES said ironically that the salary of 17,000 crowns is really the creatively realized method of tightening belts. The approved height of the salaries of "professional" deputies will not probably meet with consent of the Czechoslovak public, either. The average salary of a Czechoslovak working citizen was 3,218 crowns in 1989.

Assembly Approves Foreign Relations Plan

LD2007202890 Prague CTK in English 1923 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Prague July 20 (CTK)—The Presidium of the Czechoslovak Federal Assembly approved here today at a session, presided by its chairman Alexander Dubcek, a plan of foreign relations of the Federal Assembly in the second six months of 1990 an the composition of a delegation of the federal assembly to the parliamentary assembly of the council of Europe and its committee.

The Presidium declared a law which amends the legal order, the law on the salaries and other expenditures of deputies to the Federal Assembly and a complete wording of the defence act.

The work in committees of the Federal Assembly and in its Presidium will continue after parliamentary holidays.

Moravian Demands Cause Commotion in Parliament

AU2207150890 Bratislava NARODNA OBRODA in Slovak 19 Jul 90 p 1

[Jan Fule report: "Fifth Joint Meeting of Federal Assembly Chambers; Deputies' Salaries on Tomorrow's Agenda"]

[Excerpts] Prague— The fifth joint meeting of Federal Assembly chambers opened in Prague yesterday. Prior to its start, there were several question marks about its agenda. Most of them concerned the much-debated approval of deputies' salaries. Even though, according to the submitted agenda, these salaries were to be approved today, the decision will probably be made tomorrow afternoon. [passage omitted]

The greatest commotion was caused by Deputy Boleslav Barta (Movement for Autonomous Democracy/Society for Moravia and Silesia). During the debate on the constitutional law which changes and amends Constitutional Law No. 100 of 1968, the CSFR Constitution, and the Constitutional Law on the Czechoslovak Federation by reducing the term for elected national committees, he proposed the formation of a Czech-Moravian National Council, which would be divided into the Assembly of the Czech Land and the Assembly of the Moravian-Silesian Land. The name of the Czech Republic would, under his proposal, become the Czech-Moravian Republic. After a highly controversial debate, during which more than 20 deputies took the floor, the parliament approved the draft in its original wording, without the changes submitted by Boleslav Barta. [passage omitted]

More Details of Secret CSFR Nuclear Report

AU2107182090 Vienna Domestic Service in German 1000 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Fritz Pesata report]

[Text] Jiri Beranek, head of the CSFR Nuclear Commission, was right when, in several interviews, he described the two oldest reactors of the Bohunice nuclear power plant literally as the weakest link in the CSFR nuclear energy chain. However, one must also critically assess the security standards of the reactors of the second generation at Dukovany, as well as the reactors at Mochovce, which are still unfinished or have not yet been put into operation, and the four reactor blocks at Temelin, which can currently only be recognized by the outlines of the growing cooling towers.

Let us take the case of Dukovany, which is about 30 km to the southwest of Brno, has three units of the second generation of the Soviet WWER-440 reactor, and went into the grid between 1985 and 1986; the state nuclear commission has expressed the following—not exactly flattering—opinion, quote:

The state inspectors regarded as significant incidents the low intensity of natural circulation of the cooling water in the primary circuit while the third block was shut down to exchange the fuel rods and the emergency shutdown of the second block, in which the rotary motion of the turbine was so high that the protective system to prevent over acceleration was put on. For this, the key for the emergency shutdown of the turbine was not adequate. At the same time the computer information system's data were lost. End of quote.

Another example of the unpublished CSFR nuclear report is on the four blocks of Mochovce. Here the inspectors frankly state, quote:

The investor did not know what was supplied and how the supply was stored. With regard to Mochovce it was also stated that the technological documentation was incomplete and that there was an incongruity between

the data in the computer and reality. It was also noted that several supplies were implemented without assuring that the required quality guarantees were observed beforehand. Yet the most serious problem of Mochovce seems to be the automatic control system, which is permanently being developed, and whose elements were not examined under conditions that correspond—at least in part—to the real conditions.

In other words, this means that at the moment the new control technology is being examined in Kiev together with Soviet engineers. Should it turn out that this new technology does not work, one would have to get hold of substitute Western technology. However, in that case it will not be possible to put Mochovce into the electricity grid in two years time, as planned. Moreover, bad feelings and resistance are now emerging in Hungary against this nuclear power plant close to the border—not east because now there are even plans to set up a nuclear waste disposal site near Mochovce.

Finally there are the projected four blocks of Temelin in southern Bohemia. Unlike Bohunice, Dukovany, and Mochovce, Temelin is to be equipped with WWER-1,000 reactors. The positive thing about this is that this reactor type has a so-called containment chamber, that is to say, a security shell. On the other hand, the report by the CSFR Nuclear Commission states literally, quote:

Experiences from such blocks that are in operation in the USSR and in Bulgaria confirm that their operation is difficult to control and thus, must unstable. End of quote.

Slimak: Soviet Troop Withdrawal on Schedule

LD2107111190 Prague CTK in English 1032 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Text] Washington July 21 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Deputy Defence Minister Lieutenant-General Anton Slimak has assured Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff General Colin Powell that the timetable of the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Czechoslovakia was being fulfilled.

In an interview at the close of his visit to the United States he told CTK Friday that the time of the Soviet troops' pullout "might even be shorter than scheduled".

Lt.-Gen. Slimak, who is also Czechoslovak Army chief of staff, headed a military delegation which paid a four-day visit to the United States, the first on such a high army level in the history of the two countries' relations. The delegation was received by U.S. Defence Secretary Richard Cheney and made a tour of four military bases: MacDill in Florida, the Fort Bragg Paratroop Base, the Tactical Air Force Base in Langley and Marine Corps in Camp Lajune. The delegation saw life of the troops without any embellishments, Anton Slimak told a press conference at the Czechoslovak Embassy.

He later told CTK that the delegation especially "tried to understand the essence of the application of the democratic principle in the U.S. Army, and we would like to use their experiences in the building of our Army", he said.

The delegation is leaving for a visit to Canada today.

Deputy Foreign Minister on Cuban Incident

AU2107161890 Prague MLADA FRONTA in Czech 19 Jul 90 pp 1, 2

[Interview with CSFR Deputy Foreign Minister Vojtech Wagner by "(vod)"-signed reporter at Prague-Ruzyne airport on 18 July: "A Coincidence According to a Scenario?"; first paragraph is MLADA FRONTA introduction]

[Text] Yesterday at Prague-Ruzyne Airport, from where he had left for Cuba not even 48 hours ago, we asked Vojtech Wagner, CSFR deputy foreign minister, a few questions immediately after his return from Havana.

[MLADA FRONTA] The intention of your lightning diplomatic mission to Havana was, apparently, negotiations with the Cuban First Deputy Foreign Minister Jose Raul Vierka. How would you characterize them?

[Wagner] The negotiations were not easy, because the Cuban side was not satisfied—I do not want to say irritated—with the overall situation around our embassy. Nevertheless, during the first round of talks, we succeeded in finding a common language, and we also continued our negotiations on Tuesday [17 July] afternoon, shortly before my departure. Our side stuck to a few principles, above all, that differing opinions on some matters should not make us enemies—this was neither our nor their intention—moreover, that we reserve our right to offer, to anyone we wish, hospitality at our embassy. We have agreed upon one thing with the Cuban partner—the whole matter was not a coincidence. It is necessary to emphasize that we have to solve the matter very carefully and sensibly; I can state that the Cuban side tried to meet our demands. We were promised that our office would be protected in such a way that no one would be able to get in except through the main entrance. Cubans are investigating the whole matter and they will let us know the results immediately. These should be available in a few days.

[MLADA FRONTA] You probably spoke about the Cuban interest section in the United States at our Washington Embassy. Will this representation continue?

[Wagner] Some speculation has appeared, but on our side there is no need to reconsider this matter, and I personally believe that it would not be proper, either. I think that it would be an error—no matter which country is involved—to let things go the way they did once in the case of Israel. As soon as I stop talking to someone, I lose the opportunity to make any kind of agreement with him.

[MLADA FRONTA] Five Cubans remain in the residence of Mr. Domok our charge d'affaires. How will this situation be solved?

[Wagner] In our negotiations we have clearly separated the problems related to the Cubans at our embassy and the five Cubans in Mr. Domok's residence. First, this residence is not our sovereign territory, second, those people broke in by force and held Mr. Domok hostage for a certain period. We are not going to negotiate with them and I have stated unequivocally that we are not going to let anybody blackmail us—either side. The result was that the Cuban side promised help; at this time we think the whole matter should be closed.

[MLADA FRONTA] Did the Cuban side give any hints about the fate of the first five Cubans who came to our office and asked for protection on 9 July and who were labeled political dissidents?

[Wagner] No, it did not, and, in fact, we do not know in what manner all these people left our embassy. Our people were evacuated from the other part of the building, but we have learned from the Cuban side that the five Cubans have all gone. Of course, we are going to inquire about the fate of these people.

GERMAN UNIFICATION

Notice to Readers: *Beginning 30 July, reportage concerning German unification will not be published under the GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC section of the East Europe DAILY REPORT. In order to provide information on the topic in one location for the benefit of our readers, material from the GDR and FRG, as well as other media will be found in the German Unification Attachment to the West Europe DAILY REPORT.*

De Maiziere Discusses Accession, Elections

AU2007121990 Hamburg DIE WELT in German 20 Jul 90 p 6

[Interview with Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere by Detlev Ahlers; place and date not given: "German Federal Republic Would Be Possible"]

[Text] [Ahlers] Mr. Prime Minister, you have been in office for 100 days now. Has any other period in your life passed more quickly?

[De Maiziere] No. It is true that time passes more quickly as one gets older. The time between two Christmases is incredibly long for children; however, this changes as one gets older. Since November, so much more has happened than in previous years. For me it was mainly a positive time. I received support from people from whom I would never have expected it. I had to learn a great deal, which I find very interesting.

[Ahlers] Joachim Gauck (New Forum) has criticized the fact that the past has been evaluated and that the goals have largely been determined, but that the transition is not really being shaped.

[De Maiziere] I do not agree with him. A great deal of what we do has a revolutionary character. The transition from a planned command economy to a social market economy in one day is revolutionary. Some of the processes have assumed a dynamic of their own. I had to play under many conductors. There were dictators who forced the tempo on the orchestra, and there were those who started to conduct and then followed the tempo of the musicians. As a musician, I preferred the latter type of conductors.

[Ahlers] Are you controlling the tempo or is the process constantly accelerating itself in the GDR? High wage agreements were still inconceivable in June.

[De Maiziere] It is difficult to determine yardsticks in this quick-moving time. I think that the development concerning the wages does not correspond to the situation and the productivity of our enterprises.

[Ahlers] When should the GDR join the FRG under the Basic Law?

[De Maiziere] The coalition committee was to discuss this on Monday [16 July]. On the evening of the same day, I discussed a problem with a few gentlemen from both German Agriculture Ministries, which I consider the most important issue because it affects the lives of the people. The question concerning the accession is not so urgent. Unfortunately, this matter has become a bone of contention among parties. I stick to my view that accession can only take place with the constituting of the newly elected sovereign body.

[Ahlers] Won't this sovereign body, however, merely be a constituent assembly? Can two electorates elect a parliament jointly and directly?

[De Maiziere] I proceed from the assumption that this is possible. The growing together of two parts of a people, of two nations, is a unique process, and this must take place according to their own rules. Both parts must remain governable until the very end. It must always be clear which government is legitimate.

[Ahlers] So you are in favor of accession when the chancellor is elected by the new German government.

[De Maiziere] Not necessarily. It must also be clear, however, who is running the country between the constitution of the parliament and the election of the chancellor. After accession under the Basic Law, there will be a German government led by a chancellor. If the GDR accedes to the FRG before the elections, a situation would arise in which 16 million Germans would be led by a government which not one of them had legitimized through elections.

[Ahlers] What matters should be settled by the GDR before the accession? The examination of the judges or the dissolution of the state security system? Or the persecution of those who committed political offenses?

[De Maiziere] What is important in solving these problems is that it be carried out in accordance with criteria that we have developed, and that the people who make the decisions have lived under the same conditions. We need a unification treaty that will describe the preconditions in all spheres of life, according to which unification under Article 23 of the Basic law is possible. And what makes matters even more difficult is that we will need a different development in certain spheres in the years following unification and corresponding rules on how these areas should grow together.

[Ahlers] What GDR structures should be maintained after unification?

[De Maiziere] There will be five laender whose central organization will gradually weaken. This central structure might be an assembly of minister presidents. This will be necessary because the centrally planned economy, practiced for 40 years, has led to significant structural inequalities. Some regions might be given the possibility of using investments that have partly been financed by other regions. Thus, revenue equalization will be needed at the beginning, which will be an equalization of shortages, as in the past. In addition, the minister presidents

assembly might control the Trust Authority, whose revenues should only be distributed among the five laender and East Berlin.

[Ahlers] According to Article 36 of the Basic Law, the present-day GDR is entitled to an "adequate amount" of permanent positions for civil servants in all higher federal authorities. Should this article be fully applied from the beginning?

[De Maiziere] This will be regulated in the unification treaty. Basically, it will be necessary for quite some time to come to know what the old rules were. As far as expenditure of work is concerned, it does not make any difference whether somebody who is familiar with the past has to learn new rules or whether somebody who knows the current rules must familiarize himself with the past.

[Ahlers] What should be the name of the new state and what anthem should it have?

[De Maiziere] The old anthem based on music by Haydn is indispensable. One can think about whether one should sing only one verse. I want to try on the piano whether one could add "Risen from the ruins" to the original third verse by Hoffmann von Fallersleben. The name of the new state should indicate that a new state has been created. "German Federal Republic" would be possible. Interior Minister Schaeuble stated that in this case "German" would not be used as a noun. The use of "German" as an adjective might be acceptable.

[Ahlers] Large immediate loans that have recently become necessary in agriculture give the impression that the GDR is doing indirectly what it should no longer do—namely, to print money and grant loans.

[De Maiziere] We do this within agreed limits. We are controlled by the Federal Authority for the Supervision of Banks, and I have not heard any criticism from there. For dignity's sake, one must proceed from the existence of two states when raising loans. We consider the aid that we receive as a help that will enable us to help ourselves.

[Ahlers] Did you notice acts of sabotage during the first days of economic union?

[De Maiziere] I would rather speak of inability than of ill will. People who had to wait for central instructions for 40 years and who had to work in enterprises to fulfill over 600 plan targets cannot learn in one day how the market works. Some people realized quickly, however, that one can earn a lot more money in a monopoly situation than in a country with a broad competition. They benefited from the fact that we had a structure characterized by state monopoly whose abolition is difficult. We have no example from which we can learn. Nobody has ever done such a thing.

[Ahlers] As a native of Berlin-Brandenburg, how would you like to shape the relationship between Berlin and Brandenburg?

[De Maiziere] There will first be a land of Brandenburg and a land of Berlin. At the moment, no other regulation is possible because the rights of the Allies have not yet been eliminated. I am in favor of a land of Berlin-Brandenburg at a later date.

[Ahlers] What is your position within the Christian Democratic Union [CDU] concerning unification, and what are your goals in the election campaign?

[De Maiziere] It has been agreed upon that the GDR CDU will participate in the leading bodies. It will be represented in a way that is proportional to the number of its members and voters. My role in the election campaign is not yet clear.

[Ahlers] Do you not plan to run for the office of the minister responsible for the construction of Germany?

[De Maiziere] There has been talk about creating such a ministry in connection with the unification treaty; however, it is difficult to describe because the determination of its tasks lies exclusively within the chancellor's responsibility. I do not know whether I should consider assuming such a position, because it is largely determined by economic processes. I am quite familiar with the economy and I am interested in economic issues, but I do not think that I would like such a narrowly defined task.

Demands More Concessions From Bonn

LD2207082590 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0257 GMT 22 Jul 90

[Text] Berlin (West) (ADN)—According to BERLINER MORGENPOST, in the first round of the negotiations between the two German states on the unification treaty, Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere has demanded further concessions from Bonn for the period following the establishment of German unity.

Quoting an internal minute in its possession, the paper writes on Sunday that the GDR head of government demanded "that the political agreement on property issues be legally fixed." Obviously, De Maiziere's intention is to gain an additional safeguard for the agreements reached in the joint statement by the two sides on the open asset question, the article says. Furthermore, the prime minister wants to establish the financial independence of the East Berlin trust body for the privatization of GDR enterprises. Profits made by the trust body from the sale and conversion of former state enterprises should "exclusively benefit the present GDR territory." De Maiziere has also called for "special organizational precautionary measures"—such as a "development ministry" or a "special prime minister's conference of the GDR laender"—to ensure that the present GDR has a political say after unification.

In the negotiations De Maiziere has favored the name "Deutsche Bundesrepublik [German Federal Republic];" however, all the Bonn [political] parties were rejecting this name.

Reviews 1st 100 Days

LD2007113490 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0956 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—One hundred days of free democracy stand in opposition to around 15,000 days of dictatorship. Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere stated this today to the international press in Berlin. His government feels great satisfaction that the will for freedom has scrapped dictatorship, the right to freedom of movement has scrapped the Wall and barbed wire, free opinion has scrapped censorship, thinking in line with a state based on the rule of law has scrapped arbitrary acts, and a free and easy way of life has scrapped the finely woven Stasi network.

The prime minister named as the highpoint of his first 100 days the 16 July agreement between federal Chancellor Kohl and President Gorbachev.

The adjustment process to the new economic conditions is difficult for all economic sectors, especially agriculture, said the prime minister. Medium-term solutions therefore have to be found very quickly. Thus, agriculture is gradually being adapted to the EC agrarian market. The de facto customs union from 1 August 1990 will provide new opportunities for GDR agriculture.

Retail trade lacks flexibility and the necessary logistics. Nevertheless the problems can be solved quickly. "The producer must take the market into account more in its products and organize retail trade more in line with needs. The consumer should no longer buy goods and be satisfied with getting something at all, but must influence the market place to his advantage with his hard currency."

Unemployment is today not the end of one's professional career, but a transition to a new labor process, De Maiziere stated. At the beginning of the week, the first private organization for training workers was founded in East Berlin. There 1,000 employees a year from the energy plant construction industry can be trained, the prime minister stated. Training establishments of this type are being promoted to a greater extent. The government has provided 160 million Deutsch marks for retraining. The 20,000 or so new registered businesses will also create numerous new jobs in East Berlin. De Maiziere said a strike is only meaningful "where there is somehing to be striked for." At present nearly all classrooms are empty. The free trade unions should not underline their raison d'etre with excessive demands now but with moderation.

Referring to the social union, the prime minister stressed that "in the present social order, the strongest—namely, the state—must act for the weakest." He mentioned as one of the most important social measures the prevention of an inflationary development.

In De Maiziere's view, the government reached important decisions on environmental protection in the first 100 days. "For example there will be 15 percent less harmful emissions within a year." "We will continue at the same pace in order to eliminate the worst consequences. The object is to rid nature and thus mankind of environmental poisons as quickly and efficiently as possible."

De Maiziere said in conclusion that he regards himself in his present capacity as an advocate of 16 million GDR citizens. "Their problems are my problems. We will solve them in as far as this is at all possible."

Eppelmann Says Unification Needs More Time

LD2107172490 Hamburg DPA in German 1632 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Text] Hamburg (DPA)—Defense Minister Rainer Eppelmann (Democratic Awakening) believes that German unity cannot be said to occur at a specific historical point. "We will not have it with 2 December either," he said in a DER SPIEGEL interview. In the most favorable case, "we will then have two very different parts of a united state which offer their citizens very different possibilities. To assume that everything is settled with this [unification] is an illusion," Eppelmann stressed. The economic gap between Cologne and Dresden will continue for years.

Eppelmann said that, actually, political unification could use a little more time. "I do not really know what one is hoping for at the moment from this great haste." Previously, "one took a little more time getting to know one another before going to bed than one does today," Eppelmann said.

Democratic Awakening voted yesterday with the CDU [Christian Democratic Union] and the PDS [Party for Democratic Socialism] in the People's Chamber against a motion by the League of Free Democrats to proclaim the GDR's accession to the FRG a day before the all-German elections on 2 December.

Against Disbanding NVA After Unification

LD2107190890 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1805 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Excerpt] Hamburg (ADN)—The East Berlin disarmament and defense minister has spoken against disbanding the National People's Army (NVA) after unification. In an interview with the Hamburg news magazine DER SPIEGEL, Eppelmann said that initially the NVA should be given the same task as the "Territorial Army West between Elbe and Rhine," and that it should be put under the control of a national high command. The USSR has lost the NVA; however, the German unification process becoming a "Versailles for the Soviet Union" would have to be avoided.

Eppelmann announced that he was currently negotiating with the Soviet Union about the cancellation of agreements for the supply of missiles. "We will probably have to pay penalties," he said. "We are genuinely disarming.

unlike others, who, by way of modernization, are trying to increase the actual fighting strength of the Army." [passage omitted]

Meckel Favors NVA 'Independent Structure'

LD2107083390 Hamburg DPA in German 0317 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Text] Berlin (DPA)—Foreign Minister Markus Meckel has emphasized his demand for the maintenance of an independent structure for the National People's Army (NVA) for a transitional period after the unificaiton of the two German states. This was justified by the "special security policy status" that the GDR would occupy in NATO as long as Soviet troops are stationed on its territory, Meckel told the BERLINER MORGENPOST (Saturday edition) [21 July]. Structural adjustment problems also existed between the two very different Armies, which could not simply be ignored.

Views NATO, Two-Plus-Four Talks

AU2207154590 Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU in German 20 Jul 90

[Interview with Foreign Minister Markus Meckel by Karl-Heinz Baum in Berlin; date not given: "NATO Must Undergo Further Changes"]

[Text] [Baum] Is the GDR's foreign policy practically finished after the agreements reached by Kohl and Gorbachev?

[Meckel] No, not at all. The GDR is a sovereign state under international law and will continue to be one until its accession to the FRG under Article 23 of the Basic Law. It has always been clear since 18 March that the mandate of the GDR Government will expire with the completion of German unity. This will happen before the end of this year. This naturally limits our room to maneuver. Everybody knew that from the beginning.

[Baum] The foreign minister of the GDR Government was or still is particularly critical of NATO. In this way, are you not continuing the propaganda of your predecessors who were not exactly popular?

[Meckel] All military and security officials in the East and West have always stressed that it is not important what a state or a military alliance states, but what military opportunities they have. In this respect, NATO has always been a potential threat for the people in the GDR. NATO has always had the military equipment to destroy us completely. This statement does not become incorrect because the Socialist Unity Party of Germany used it as well.

[Baum] Should these weapons not disappear together with the troops that are deployed here?

[Meckel] The most important thing for me personally is the formulation of our coalition agreement, which will deal with the acceptability of German NATO membership for our East European neighbors. If Poland, Hungary, the CSFR, and now also the USSR support or at least accept membership in NATO of a united Germany—which they do—our demands have clearly been fulfilled. We believe, however, that NATO will and must undergo more far-reaching changes than were announced at the London summit. There have been reports that the strategy of flexible response and of the first use of nuclear weapons are to remain unchanged after the revision of NATO's strategy. This would not take into consideration the new situation in Europe.

[Baum] Do you think that the deployment of nuclear weapons can be prevented in a united Germany?

[Meckel] The FRG has so far been so closely incorporated in NATO that the governments have always agreed to the stationing of nuclear weapons, despite protests from the public. There are not many supporters of nuclear weapons in the GDR. Resistance among opponents to nuclear weapons will grow. The FRG Government would be well advised to include the renunciation concerning the deployment of nuclear weapons in its future program. It would be useful to stipulate this in the second State Treaty. The stationing of nuclear weapons in Germany is completely useless. Short-range missiles deployed in Germany would only hit Germans in the East, as well as Poles and Czechs. The deployment of short-range missiles would only be useful in military terms if one proceeded from the assumption that, after the withdrawal of the Soviet Union, an invasion of Germany by Poles and Czechs would have to be prevented, which I consider absurd.

[Baum] Talks are being conducted on the elimination of short-range missiles.

[Meckel] Let us hope that they will really be eliminated. This is exactly what we want, and what is not so clear at the moment. We want a zero option for battlefield weapons and short-range missiles. Then there will still be atomic bombs, and the planned tactical air-to-surface missiles (TASM), to which the modernization reservation of the NATO communique apparently refers. They could be fired at the Soviet Union. However, of what use would this be in view of the new relationship between Germany and NATO and the Soviet Union? I do not think that we need these missiles. Then one need only remove the atomic bombs to rid Germany completely of nuclear weapons.

[Baum] What about the rest of Europe? Great Britain and France continue their nuclear arms race.

[Meckel] We are concerned about this. I wonder how the production of the French Hades missiles is compatible with French-German friendship. These weapons can only be aimed at the Germans. Great Britain is also modernizing its nuclear arsenal. We hope that France and Great Britain will no longer need nuclear weapons in the future to boost their national self-confidence.

[Baum] Would you agree that the essential decisions were made at the two-plus-four talks?

[Meckel] It is true that the main political problems have been solved. We just discussed the military aspects. In connection with the Polish border, we have always claimed that we want to guarantee the degree of security that Poland needs as the neighbor of a big and strong Germany. The two German states have stated definitively that the current German-Polish border is final and will not be questioned in the future. The former victorious powers confirmed this. Germany and Poland will confirm it in a border treaty shortly after unification.

[Baum] You are sometimes accused of being more Soviet than the Soviets.

[Meckel] Of course, this is not true. We are not advocating Soviet interests, but our own interests. However, it is in our interest to take into consideration Soviet interests. These issues have now been clarified through the consent of the Soviet Union. The question concerning nuclear weapons is particularly important for us because all the weapons that are deployed here—both Soviet and U.S. missiles affect us. Everything that concerns the future of the eastern part of Germany—the security-political situation, the Army, the deployment of Soviet troops, their rights and duties—is of special interest for us.

[Baum] Does this include the issue concerning a ceiling for German Armed Forces?

[Meckel] We welcome the fact that the FRG has taken up our proposal that the two German states should enter the Vienna talks with a stipulation on ceilings. The ceiling agreed upon in Moscow is higher than the one we suggested; however, we are not concerned about this. We hope for further reductions in future Vienna talks. Reductions cannot mean, however, that the Bundeswehr remains unchanged whereas the National People's Army is reduced to zero. We demand an appropriate proportionality: The National People's Army should be reduced to between 50,000 and 60,000 men. These issues must be discussed and clarified within the framework of a second state treaty.

No Evidence of Soviet CW Depots Found

AU2007151790 Munich SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG in German 20 Jul 90 p 6

["cas"-signed report: "No Evidence of Poison Gas Depots in the GDR"]

[Excerpt] Storkow/GDR—The commander in chief of the National People's Army [NVA], Admiral Theodor Hoffmann, and the head of the "Chemical Services Administration" in East Berlin's Disarmament and Defense Ministry, Major General Karl-Heinz Nagler, have stated that the GDR possesses no chemical weapons in the form of shells or bombs, and it never possessed such weapons in the past. After 11 FRG experts examined the central exercise area of the Chemical Services in Storkow near Fuerstenwalde, Nagler stressed that the NVA had limited stocks of chemical weapons at its disposal for training purposes. The general also emphasized that the NVA did not execute plans for the production or development of chemical weapons either.

FRG experts—ten representatives from the Defense Ministry and one expert from the Foreign Ministry—are currently in the GDR to verify this. They were invited to visit the GDR last Friday [13 July] after reports were published that tens of thousands of Soviet chemical weapons were stored in depots in the GDR, which are allegedly partly guarded by the NVA. The reports also claimed that the GDR had produced chemical weapons under Soviet supervision. The Dresden work that was mentioned in this connection has vehemently rejected the claim.

The list of alleged chemical weapons depots that State Secretary Ablass received on 13 July, includes two NVA sites: Storkow and the "chemical workshop and camp 2" in Brettin near Brandenburg. Both sites are being examined now. During the first hours when the FRG experts checked the exercise area in Storkow, no chemical weapons were found. The inspection will continue. The delegation head, Colonel General Wolfgang Buttler, praised the competent NVA authorities for their willingness to cooperate.

State Secretary Ablass stated in Storkow that representatives of the Soviet Armed Forces had assured him again in the past few days that the Red Army had not stored chemical weapons in the GDR. Admiral Hoffmann and Major General Nagler pointed out that they did not see any reason to question these statements. Ablass suggested that the Soviet Army should also allow controls at its sites, by U.S. experts, for example.

According to Nagler and Hoffmann, there have never been any joint Red Army "exercises concerning the defensive use of chemical weapons," as had been claimed. No maneuvers took place in the past few years, during which the use of weapons of mass destruction was used, Hoffmann stated. Only situations requiring the protection and defense against a chemical weapons attack, as well as decontamination and disinfection exercises were simulated, Major General Nagler pointed out. [passage omitted]

Government Coalition Strained Over Accession

Chamber Disputes Unification Statement

LD2007173190 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1625 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Excerpts] Berlin (ADN)—The parliamentary groups of the People's Chamber accused each other of tactical party considerations this afternoon during the discussion of the League of Free Democrats motion, according to which the GDR government should declare before the summer recess accession in accordance with Article 23 of the FRG Basic Law, with effect from 1 December. After

a break for consultations with the presidium and some discussion about the voting, the motion was rejected by a majority. A majority had spoken in favour of breaking off the debate on this point because coalition questions that had not been clarified during the night would not lead to any results here.

Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere pointed out politely but firmly that it was no use proposing spectacular motions without considering in a constructive way how the coalition agreement could be implemented, which calls for unity as quickly as possible and as good as necessary. The lawyer declared that a statement at the present time on accession even with effect from 1 December would mean that the unification negotiations would theoretically become a farce, because accession would come into effect even if one or another of the demands of the unification treaty were not agreed on. In addition, every legislative measure would then have to be in line with the Basic Law. De Maiziere pointed to the many open questions, such as capital and property issues, the legal recognition of all school certificates, and also paragraph 218 [abortion regulations]. [passage omitted]

At the beginning of the session, the deputies commemorated the staunch patriots of 20 July who attempted "at the last minute" to put an end to the Hitler regime, it was said in a declaration adopted by the People's Chamber.

The session has an agenda of 30 points and will probably continue late into the night.

De Maiziere: Breakup 'Inconceivable'

AU2007193990 Mainz ZDF Television Network in German 1700 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Report on statement by Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere to ZDF television in Berlin on 20 July]

[Text] Lothar de Maiziere wants to prevent the GDR's accession before the all-German elections so that the GDR will continue to be governable, and so that the interests of its citizens can be represented in the two-plus-four negotiations and in the negotiations on the second State Treaty. For him, the government's breakup is inconceivable, he stated to ZDF.

[Begin De Maiziere recording] Well, I proceed on the assumption that this will not happen. If such a situation were to arise, new arrangements would have to be made. Those who want to bring about such a situation, however, will also have to accept questions about their responsibility. All the parties united in the coalition took office with the objective of creating the unity of Germany in the best way possible, and this will have to be remembered. [end recording]

CDU Spokesman: Agreement Possible

AU2107151890 Cologne Deutschlandfunk Network in German 1100 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Text] Party Spokesman Lueck, of the GDR Christian Democratic Union [CDU], considers agreement on the controversy about the date of the GDR's accession to the FRG possible. In a Deutschlandfunk interview today, Lueck said that he is not skeptical about the coalition partners finding a common platform on this issue. He rejected the claim that chief of government Lothar de Maiziere is deliberately trying to bring about a split of the coalition.

Wolfgang Thierse, chairman of the GDR Social Democratic Party [SPD], earlier accused the prime minister of intending to destroy the East Berlin government coalition. He said in an interview with West Berlin Sender Freies Berlin that Lothar de Maiziere was demonstrating recklessness in the discussion on the date of accession. Thierse confirmed the SPD's view that truly democratic, all-German elections are only possible after the GDR has acceded to the FRG.

CDU Supports De Maiziere

LD2107153890 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1448 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Text] Burgscheidungen (ADN)—The Christian Democratic Union [CDU] Party Executive, at a closed meeting in Burgscheidungen on Saturday, supported without dissent the position adopted by Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere, according to which the GDR's accession to the Federal Republic under Article 23 would make sense, at the earliest, on the day after the pan-German elections. The body also voiced its satisfaction at the intention of Democratic Awakening (DA) to adopt the CDU as its political homeland. The same position was already expressed by the CDU party leadership a few days ago on the merger intentions of the Democratic Farmers Party of Germany (DBD). It was proposed to the regional executives of the CDU to safeguard an appropriate representation for the DA and DBD.

CDU General Secretary Martin Kirchner said on the sidelines of the meeting that Interior Minister Peter-Michael Diestel and Economic Cooperation Minister Hans-Wilhelm Ebeling intend to join the CDU. Both of them until recently were members of the DSU, of which Ebeling was a cofounder. According to the amendment of the party law adopted by the People's Chamber on Friday, People's Chamber deputies can now change parties without losing their seats, Kirchner said.

In view of the East-West joint party congress of the CDU in Hamburg in early October, the participants in the meeting decided to cancel the party congress of the East CDU originally planned to take place on 28 and 29 September.

SPD, Liberals Threaten Withdrawal

LD2107193290 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1720 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Excerpts] Berlin (ADN) - The GDR Government coalition is facing its greatest test ever. The Chrisitian Democratic Union [CDU] maintains its view that accession by the GDR to the FRG can only take place immediately after the elections to an all-German parliament. On the

other hand, the Social Democratic Party [SPD] and the League of Free Democrats [BFD] insist that the act should be performed, at the latest, one day before the elections. The SPD and the BFD will again table a relevant motion tomorrow at the last session of the People's Chamber before the summer recess. If the CDU and the German Social Union, who thwarted such a motion at the last parliamentary session yesterday with the help of the opposition's votes, insist on their position, the SPD and the BFD are threatening to break up the coalition.

SPD Chief Wolfgang Thierse has criticized Lothar de Maiziere's position in favor of separate electoral areas, which he expressed in the BERLINER ZEITUNG newspaper, saying it is extremely hostile to the coalition. [passage omitted]

The background of the debate undoubtedly refers to tactical considerations for the elections. With separate electoral areas in the GDR and the FRG, it is expected that the SPD, above all, will lose votes on the territory of the GDR, because here the PDS [Party of Deomcratic Socialism] will engulf "potential electoral votes" and pass the five-percent threshold without difficulty.

The DSU [German Social Union] will also probably get into parliament. With an all-German electoral area, the PDS' chances would be small and the DSU would not have any. [passage omitted]

SPD, Liberals' Accession Proposal

LD2107201490 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1821 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The GDR SPD [Social Democratic Party] and League of Free Democrats agreed today to bring in a motion again during tomorrow's People's Chamber session providing for the GDR's accession to the FRG, at the very latest, on the day before the all-German elections. The text of the motion is as follows:

The People's Chamber should resolve:

1. The People's Chamber of the GDR will decide on the accession of the GDR, in accordance with Article 23 of the Basic Law, in such good time that it will become effective, at the latest, on the day before the election for the all-German parliament.

The questions connected with accession are to be settled conjointly by them in a unification treaty between the GDR and the FRG.

This treaty is also to contain the agreement that the government of the GDR remains in office as caretaker until the appointment of the first all-German government.

2. The People's Chamber commissions its presidium to convene with the presidium of the German Bundestag a joint session of the two committees for German unity in July, to discuss the all-German elections as joint elections.

The People's Chamber commissions the government of the GDR to start negotiations with the government of the Federal Republic of Germany without delay, with an aim to signing an election treaty on the preparations for the all-German elections.

Meckel Threatens Resignation

LD2207150690 Hamburg DPA in German 1447 GMT 22 Jul 90

[Excerpt] Berlin (DPA)—Foreign Minister Markus Meckel (Social Democratic Party) [SPD] threatened resignation if the motion to be presented to the People's Chamber by the SPD and the League of Free Democrats [BFD] is rejected. "I will only stay in politics as long as it is social democratic politics," Meckel declared after the session of SPD and BFD, in reply to a question if he would resign if the motion is rejected. [passage omitted]

Coalition Reaches Compromise

LD2207101290 Hamburg DPA in German 0954 GMT 22 Jul 90

[Excerpt] Berlin (DPA)—The GDR coalition has apparently found a compromise on the controversial accession issue; thus, the coalition will not break up today. There was a procedural compromise, Liberal Floor Group Chairman Rainer Ortleb said. If the Christian Democratic Union adheres to it, "then we shall be able to live with it."

Prior to the People's Chamber session, the coalition partners met in various meetings to thrash out the compromise. Ortleb said that "bodies" are to be instructed to clarify the "crux of the matter" of a unified or two separate electoral areas for the all-German elections. [passage omitted]

DSU Endorses De Maiziere Policy

LD2207112790 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1053 GMT 22 Jul 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—At it constituted session in Berlin, the newly elected national executive of the German Social Union [DSU] has endorsed the policy of Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere and affirmed the party's continued place in the government coalition.

DSU Chairman Professor Hans-Joachim Walther said at the session, held on Saturday, that De Maiziere is a successful head of government who pursues his objectives uncompromisingly and is capable "of leading the present-day GDR to unification." He can count on the votes of the DSU People's Chamber group.

The deputy group chairman, People's Chamber Deputy Karsten Degner from Chemnitz, was appointed the party's new national business manager.

Ortleb Wants To Leave Coalition

LD2207122990 Hamburg DPA in German 1154 GMT 22 Jul 90

[Text] Berlin (DPA)—Rainer Ortleb, floor group chairman for the League of Free Democrats, following his latest pronouncements, is now after all in favor of leaving the government coalition. His group is discussing quitting the coalition before the joint session with the Social Democratic Party, he said on the sidelines of the People's Chamber session. He is personally in favor of leaving. "The compromise goodwill is going to be exhausted at some time."

He will not recommend to his group supporting the compromise proposal. Even so, his group will submit the motion of the compromsie now negotiated.

Liberal Spokesman Denies Leaving

LD2207131190 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 23 Jul 90

[Excerpt] Berlin (ADN)—Government Spokesman Matthias Gehler, on the sidelines of the People's Chamber meeting on Sunday afternoon, rejected speculations by news agencies, who once again spoke about the League of Free Democrats [BFD] wanting to leave the government coalition. They had quoted statements by BFD Chairman Professor Dr. Rainer Ortleb. Gehler said it would be better to wait and see and register the facts. [passage omitted]

SPD, Liberals Criticize 'Compromise'

LD2207123690 Hamburg DPA in German 1146 GMT 22 Jul 90

[Text] Berlin (DPA)—A joint session of the parliamentary groups of Social Democratic Party [SPD] and League of Free Democrats [BFD] has been called for Sunday before the negotiations about the accession motion of the BFD and SPD in the GDR People's Chamber. They are to discuss their attitude towards the compromise motion. It was learned from SPD circles that there is strong criticism of the compromise proposal. Among the BFD too, not all the group members are happy with the proposal.

The draft of the compromise motion reads: "The People's Chamber instructs its presidium to convene with the presidium of the German Bundestag a joint session of the two committees for German unity before the end of July, in order to discuss all-German elections. The People's Chamber instructs the GDR government to immediately start negotiations with the government of the Federal Republic of Germany, with the aim of shortening the time limits of the general election law in such a manner that the orderly execution of the election can still be organized after the conclusion of the unification treaty." The draft is signed by the group chairmen of the SPD and BFD, Richard Schroeder and Rainer Ortleb.

De Maiziere Stresses Unity

LD2207133790 Hamburg DPA in German 1310 GMT 22 Jul 90

[Text] Berlin (DPA)—In connection with the intended coalition compromise, Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere (Christian Democratic Union) has emphasized that joint responsibility for the shaping of German unity makes the preservation of the coalition government absolutely necessary. "Only in this way can we achieve German unity as quickly as possible and as well as is necesssary," De Maiziere said today on the sidelines of the People's Chamber session.

Deputy Government Spokeswoman Angela Merkel announced that De Maiziere has proposed to the representatives of the Social Democratic Party and the League of Free Democrats "the convening of joint talks between the two committees for German unity and a discussion of the implementation of all-German elections."

De Maiziere Says Compromise Reached

LD2207181490 Hamburg DPA in German 1736 GMT 22 Jul 90

[Text] Berlin (DPA)—According to Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere (Christian Democratic Union) [CDU], the struggle for the survival of the GDR Government coalition is settled. He announced on ZDF this evening after further coalition talks with the Social Democratic Party [SPD] and the League of Free Democrats that a new compromise formula has been found for the GDR's accession to the FRG, for which a majority can be found in the parliamentary groups. However, these groups still have to agree.

In the coalition talks, all sides stressed that it is necessary and urgent not to allow the coalition to collapse over the accession question.

In answer to the question on whether there has now been agreement about a joint election area or separate election areas in the all-German elections envisaged for 2 December, De Maiziere replied that there has been agreement not to settle the question of principle now but there has been on a path as to how the problem can be solved.

CDU Amendment to Accession Motion

LD2207200190 Hamburg DPA in German 1905 GMT 22 Jul 90

[Text] Berlin (DPA)—The amendment submitted by the Christian Democratic Union [CDU] People's Chamber group to the old motion proposed by the Liberal parliamentary group, to accede to the FRG prior to all-German elections, has the following text:

"That the People's Chamber resolves: The People's Chamber instructs its Presidium to convene, together with the Presidium of the German Bundestag, a joint session of the two German Unity Committees in July, in order to discuss all-German elections.

"The People's Chamber instructs the GDR Government to begin negotiations with the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany immediately, with the aim of negotiating a treaty on preparations for the all-German elections parallel to the negotiations on the unification treaty. In this it must be ensured that, following the conclusion of the unification treaty or parallel to it, the election procedures are so arranged—for example, through a change to the timetable laid down in federal electoral law—that the elections can be properly conducted in December. The proposals made by the two German Unity Committees should be taken into account regarding this."

SPD To Further Discuss Coalition

LD2307084390 Hamburg DPA in German 0751 GMT 23 Jul 90

[Excerpt] Berlin (DPA)—The GDR SPD [Social Democratic Party] leadership met this morning in East Berlin to discuss its further action in the coalition dispute. Before the presidium session, which is to be followed directly by an executive session, SPD chief Wolfgang Thierse told DPA that the motion introduced in the People's Chamber by Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere on the disputed accession question has not been a compromise. "We have won only a few days," Thierse said.

Executive member Gottfried Timm said that Prime Minister De Maiziere is behaving like a "bag of cement." He has become tangled up in his own argument. [passage omitted]

People's Chamber Discusses Coalition Agreement

LD2207103890 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0955 GMT 22 Jul 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The 27th People's Chamber session, eagerly anticipated at home and abroad, began in Berlin at midday today with a 25-minute delay. The apparent cause was a meeting, called at short notice, between Professor Dr. Rainer Ortleb and Lothar de Maiziere, chairmen of the League of Free Democrats [BFD] and Christian Democratic Union, respectively. After the talk, Ortleb said that the coalition parties agreed that a viable procedure concerning the accession statement has been found. He told ADN that in the negotiations between the coalition parties a viable solution has been found. Ortleb gave no further details.

As the fifth item on the agenda, the deputies intend to continue the discussion on the motion, submitted by the BFD on Friday, to agree before the summer recess of parliament on 1 December 1990, one day before the planned all-German elections, as the date for the GDR's accession to the FRG.

At the 26th People's Chamber meeting, this paper led to sharp clashes within the coalition itself. In a vote, the motion was supported only by the Social Democrats. The Christian Democratic Union/Democratic Awakening group succeeded for the first time in pushing through its political conceptions on the unification process with the votes of the Party of Democratic Socialism and other opposition deputies.

Faced with this explosive set of events, the actual topics of the special session—bill on the introduction of the laender, laender electoral law, budget law, and statutes of the trust body—are likely to be pushed into the background. There are altogether 23 items on the agenda.

The great interest in the session also became clear in the anterooms of the People's Chamber this morning, when many visitors applied for tickets to the visitors gallery. Independent of the live television coverage, they want to be direct witnesses of these far-reaching political decisions.

Interrupts Session for 'Crisis' Meeting

LD2207170190 Hamburg DPA in German 1632 GMT 22 Jul 90

[Excerpt] Berlin (DPA)—After a fairly heated debate on the date for the GDR's accession to the FRG, this evening the People's Chamber again interrupted its session. During the break, Social Democratic Party [SPD] chief Wolfgang Thierse, Udo Kamm, the deputy chairman of the Christian Democratic Union [CDU] parliamentary group, and League of Free Democrats Chairman Rainer Ortleb (BFD) held a crisis meeting. [passage omitted]

Initial Reactions to Compromise Motion Reported

LD2207224190 Hamburg DPA in German 2158 GMT 22 Jul 90

[Excerpts] Berlin (DPA)—The coalition crisis in the GDR has for the time being been banished. Late this evening in East Berlin a majority of People's Chamber deputies approved a compromise motion submitted by the CDU [Christian Democratic Union] and DA [Democratic Awakening] with 166 voting for, 82 against, and 17 abstaining. [passage omitted]

In the first reactions, spokesmen for the SPD [Social Democratic Party] and League of Free Democrats [BFD] said that a decision will be made in the next few days on the continued existence of the coalition. Conrade-Michael Lehment, the legislative business manager of the BFD, announced that his parliamentary group intends to hold discussions on Tuesday on whether to remain in the alliance. The coalition committee is to meet Monday evening to discuss further compromise possibilities. Liberal Chairman Rainer Ortleb said his legislative group had not taken part in the voting on the CDU motion. The motion was only an "improved copy" of the second part of the Liberal motion and had embarrassingly avoided calling a spade a spade. For that reason, the BFD had not felt able to vote for or against the motion. [passage omitted]

Asked whether the fate of the government coalition was now settled, SPD Chairman Wolfgang Thierse told journalists: "That will be decided in the next few days."

National People's Army Members Take New Oath

LD2007120990 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0853 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Excerpt] Berlin (ADN)—Members of all ranks of the National People's Army [NVA] took a new oath today, on the anniversary of the assassination attempt on Hitler on 20 July 1944. In troop divisions, units, and institutions they were sworn in under the new oath decided by the People's Chamber in April. The army members were thus simultaneously relieved of the military oath and officers vow made before the social transformation of the GDR. [passage omitted]

Eppelmann Commemorates 20 Jul Anniversary

LD2007191190 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1743 GMT 19 July 90

[Text] Strausberg (ADN)—"We do not want blind obedience, we want the responsible, thinking citizen in uniform, who is committed to democracy and human rights." The legacy of 20 July 1944 demands our commitment to new constitutional conditions in the country and to a democratic and humane order. This was declared by Defense and Disarmament Minister Rainer Eppelmann today at the first ever commemorative celebration of the 46th anniversary of the failed assassination attempt on Hitler by patriotic officers.

Numerous guests attended the celebration, among them acting head of state Dr. Sabine Bergmann-Pohl, other high-ranking politicians and representatives of organizations from East and West, Christian dignitaries and relatives of the officers involved in the assassination attempt.

Honecker Denies Knowledge of 'Terrorist Affair'

LD1907202790 East Berlin Deutschlandsender Network in German 2000 GMT 19 Jul 90

[Text] A trial against Honecker is unlikely, according to his lawyer, [Friedrich] Wolff. He referred to the "constitutionally weak basis of the investigations." The more stable a legal system is and the more it is based on the rule of law, the less probability there is of a charge of conviction. Wolff announced that Honecker denies any guilt or knowledge concerning the terrorist affair, invoking his political principles. Mielke [former minister for state security] had also done things without consultation.

Reportedly Seeking Asylum in Chile

AU2107200990 Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU in German 20 Jul 90 p 2

[EPD report: "Will Honecker Move To Chile?"]

[Text] According to the Third World press agency, Inter Press Agency (IPS), Erich Honecker, chairman of the former Socialist Unity Party of Germany, has applied for a visa for Chile. His daughter Sonja Yaniz and his Chilean son-in-law have lived in the South American country for several weeks. The application for asylum will most probably receive a positive response because the GDR took in thousands of Chileans-in-exile following the military putsch in 1973, the agency says, quoting well-informed sources in the Chilean capital.

Official authorities in Chile declined to confirm or deny this information on Wednesday [19 July]. Answering relevant questions several days ago, Foreign Minister Enrique Silva Cimma said "no comment." Silva told the newspaper ULTIMAS NOTICIAS that his ministry has so far not received an "application for asylum or anything like that." A government spokesman in Bonn said that nothing is known about Honecker having any such plans.

Asylum Charges Denied

AU2107201390 Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE in German 21 Jul 90 p 4

[Evangelical Press Service report: "Honecker Wants to See His Daughter in Chile"]

[Text] Berlin, 20 July—Erich Honecker, the former chief of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED], is not planning to emigrate to Chile, according to his attorney Wolff. Wolff told the East Berlin daily BERLINER ZEITUNG, that Honecker will possibly visit the South American country "for a certain time" to see his daughter Sonja Yaniz and his Chilean son-in-law once again. Wolff said that Honecker does not plan to "escape" from the GDR, and has repeatedly and "resolutely" rejected leaving the country for good. According to unconfirmed information from Santiago, Chilean Foreign Minister Silva Cimma has received an application from Honecker for an entry visa. Chilean Christian Democratic President Aylwin is reportedly ready "for humanitarian reasons" to allow the former GDR state council chairman to visit the country. In this context, it is apparently of importance that the GDR took in thousands of political refugees following the military putsch in Chile in 1973. Honecker is under investigation because of his corruption and abuse of office. No decision has been made on whether he will be declared unfit to be tried because of sickness.

PLO, RAF Established Contacts in GDR

AU2007124990 East Berlin NEUE ZEIT in German 18 Jul 90 p 1

["S.K."-signed report: "Were There Any Contacts Between the RAF and the PLO?"]

[Text] Berlin—In an interview with NEUE ZEIT, a spokesman for the Central Office of Criminal Investigation of the Interior Ministry discussed contacts between the PLO and suspected Red Army Faction [RAF] terrorists. He confirmed that radical PLO circles established contacts with RAF terrorists from the GDR where the loyal attitude of GDR security authorities allowed the PLO to set up a logistical basis. In addition, existing files show that the GDR leadership supported terrorists in

their training in the use of explosives and weapons in special camps, and helped the PLO establish contacts with Arab embassies.

At that time, only a small circle of 10 persons knew about the whereabouts of the international fugitive top terrorist "Carlos" in the GDR. It was absolutely necessary that Honecker and Mielke agreed to his entry. Carlos entered the GDR via Schoenefeld Airport in March 1979 with a passport of the People's Republic of Yemen under the name of Ahmed Adil Fawas [name as published]. The international fugitive terrorist had been arrested in France, but was released and deported. Regarding the case of Abu Dawud, information that he is now in Tunis is currently being investigated. Nonetheless, the possibility that he is currently in the GDR is also being investigated.

Regarding the arrest of suspected RAF terrorists in the GDR, the spokesman for the Central Office of Criminal Investigation did not rule out the possibility that Markus Wolf supplied information that led to the success of the search operation.

Former Trade Union Chief Tisch Arrested

LD2007200390 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1824 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—Harry Tisch, former chairman of the GDR Federation of Trade Unions, FDGB, which has now been disbanded, was arrested today, ADN learned this evening from the spokesman of the General State Prosecutor's Office, Dr. Peter Przybylski.

The warrant for his arrest was issued today by the Berlin City Court. Tisch is accused of disloyalty detrimental to national property, according to paragraph 161 and 162.

After a party career, the 63-year old became chief of the Federation of Trade Unions and was promoted into the most powerful body of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, the Politburo, in 1975.

DSU Calls for Resignation of Former Officials

AU2107164690 Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE in German 21 Jul 90 p 4

["RT"-signed report: "DSU Calls For Dismissal of All Former Leading Officials"]

[Text] Berlin, 20 July—German Social Union [DSU] Chairman Hans-Joachim Walther has called upon the GDR Government to dismiss all former leading state officials and leading staff members of the State Security Ministry. A DSU statement says that a complaint against persons who have violated human rights under the Helsinki Final Act should be filed with the state prosecutor general without delay. The People's Chamber Presidium had failed to put a vote of urgency called by the DSU People's Chamber group on registering former Stasi [State Security Service] officers, on the agenda of the last session prior to the summer recess. The reasons the DSU group gave for their motion was an "increasing danger of collusion," in connection with the clarification of the SED [Socialist Unity Party of Germany] regime's crimes. In this context, DSU Group Spokesman Fugger mentioned an example of current interest. He said that Colonel Walter Schulze, commander of the National People's Army border regiment, was suspended from office recently after having told a West German daily that he knew the soldiers who shot Chris Gueffroy from East Berlin as he was trying to escape over the wall on the night of 5/6 February 1989.

PDS Demands Immediate Agriculture Protection

AU2107171290 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 18 Jul 90 p 1

[ND-Gloede report: "PDS Calls for Special Tax and Price Limits"]

[Text] Berlin—The immediate ruin of GDR agriculture was a hotly discussed topic in government and party circles on Tuesday [17 July]. The production, processing, and marketing of domestic agricultural products must be immediately ensured, Dr. Fritz Schumann, director of the agricultural policy working group of the People's Chamber Group of the Party of Democratic Socialism [PDS], demanded in front of domestic and foreign journalists in Berlin in the morning. The PDS proposes the immediate introduction of a special trade tax for foodstuffs from the FRG and other countries. Relatively low maximum consumer prices, which correspond to the FRG's level, should be fixed for a limited period, so that this tax is not pushed off onto the customers. Enterprises from the foodstuff industry could use the proceeds from such a special tax to reorganize their production. Fritz Schumann advocated coordinated economic and administrative measures, "even though they are unpopular and do not meet with approval in Bonn."

The deputy advocated immediate measures to supply the domestic market with GDR products as the existence of the agricultural producer cooperatives and enterprises depend on them.

The PDS proposals on a special tax and price limits are being examined, but hardly have a chance to succeed, State Secretary Professor Dr. Peter Kauffold stated to the press in the afternoon after a crisis session in the Agricultural Ministry. Rather, the introduction of tax allowances for GDR products is considered. Kauffold admitted that, with the open border, the previous regulations on licenses and contingents proved inefficient and therefore previous ideas necessarily have to be abandoned. The new recipe: According to Minister Dr. Peter Pollack, the agricultural trade between the two German states is to be completely liberalized. A relevant draft resolution is to be presented in the cabinet. It is estimated that free agricultural trade will result in advantages for the GDR's primary producers, who might sell their products on the EC market, which, however, involves risks, he stated.

Finance Ministry Temporarily Blocks 92 Accounts

AU2007132590 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 19 Jul 90 p 4

[ADN/ND report: "92 Accounts With DM81.6 Million Blocked"]

[Text] Berlin—The "Currency Conversion Investigation Agency" of the Finance Ministry presented initial results of its activities on Wednesday [18 July]. A total of 1,600 accounts must be closely examined upon suspicion of illegal acts. A total of 92 accounts of companies in the GDR, involving a total amount of 81.6 million Deutsche marks have been temporarily blocked; in 25 cases, the prosecution authorities have been informed.

Floor Groups Criticize Draft Broadcasting Bill

LD2007155190 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1305 GMT 20 July 90

[Excerpts] Berlin (ADN)—The draft law submitted to the People's Chamber by the GDR Government on a transitional broadcasting law was strongly criticized by all parliamentary groups today. Deputies described the paper as a "bad relapse into state broadcasting," "illegal" and irreconciliable with pluralism and freedom of opinion. They repeatedly demanded the inclusion of public opinion, the media control council, and broadcasting employees in the discussion.

In moving the bill, Media Policy Minister Dr. Gottfried Mueller, had justified the need for a federal shaping of GDR radio and television. He pointed out that the prime minister can appoint and dismiss the future heads of the Land institutions. [passage omitted]

The draft law was referred to the relevant committees.

People's Chamber Debates Property Transfer

LD2107005690 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 2129 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The 26th People's Chamber session began in Berlin on Friday with a statement by all the parliamentary groups marking 20 July 1944, which was followed by another statement by the committee for trade and tourism concerning a hearing of trade organizations representatives.

After election of the People's Chamber's keepers of the minutes and representatives of the future laender for the GDR's negotiating delegation to the unity treaty, they dealt with the trust body statute.

Resolutions for supporting the Bundesrat in providing funds for the environment and nature protection, and the restructuring of the GDR power industry were next adopted.

The bills on rehabilitation; transitional broadcasting; the transfer of public owned farms, state forestry enterprises, and other publicly owned agricultural and forestry enterprises into the ownership of the laender and communes; the transfer of the property and leasing of publicly owned agriculturally used property to cooperatives, cooperative members, and other citizens; on the use of agricultural gas and oil; on public assemblies, and on changes and amendments to the GDR Civil Code were given the first reading.

Also on today's agenda was a first reading of the application by the League of Free Democrats concerning the GDR's accession to the jurisdiction of the FRG Basic Law, according to Article 23, with effect 1 December 1990, and a bill in preparation of the election to the pan-German parliament, and a preliminary framework police duties bill for the future laender on the territory of the GDR.

After a second reading, laws were adopted concerning personal representation, the introduction on the law concerning building regulations, the setting up of the structures of a new children and youth support law, a resolution recommendation concerning legal provisions for normal and special children's home, as well as youth workshops and transit homes.

Further resolutions comprised the setting up of an office of a civilian representative in the ministry for Youth and Sport, for changing the law of 31 May 1990 on the legal position of the People's Chamber deputies, and the law on official statistics.

Passes State Budget

LD2207134690 Hamburg DPA in German 1256 GMT 22 Jul 90

[Text] Berlin (DPA)—The People's Chamber passed the state budget on Sunday by a large majority. The budget for the second half of 1990 provides for an expenditure volume of DM [Deutsche marks] 64.15 billion. With revenues of only DM29.4 billion, the budget deficit amounts to DM4.7 billion.

Compared with the first draft, the budget plan was changed on a number of individual items during the committee discussion stage. Finance Minister Walter Romberg (Social Democratic Party) criticized the immense time pressure. The brief outline presented by federal Finance Minister Theo Waigel (Christian Social Union) left, in addition, little room for maneuver. Romberg has already announced a supplementary budget for the autumn.

With the exception of the labor and social areas, debt services, families and women, the expenditures powers of all the individual plans amounting to DM3.4 billion have been blocked. The finance minister is to secure savings of a similar amount. The defense budget is to be cut by 15 percent or DM670 million. Expenditure for environmental protection is increased by over 50 percent to DM827 million.

The budget deficit is to be made up as follows: DM24.75 billion as financial allocation from the FRG; and DM10 billion to be raised in the capital market.

Confirms Trustee Office Statute

LD2207215690 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 2126 GMT 22 Jul 90

[Excerpt] Berlin (ADN)—The People's Chamber today finally opened the way to the privatization of publicly owned property by confirming the statute on the Trustee Office. The Trustee Office, which is subordinate to the prime minister's supervision, has the task of making as many enterprises as possible competitive, and so of securing jobs and creating new ones. [passage omitted]

Reestablishment of Five Laender Approved

LD2207174190 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1630 GMT 22 Jul 90

[Excerpt] Berlin (ADN)—The reestablishment of the five laender on the territory of the GDR after 38 years has now been settled. The law on the introduction of the laender adopted by the People's Chamber today now gives a legal framework to what is already taking place everywhere in the country.

As of 14 October, the day of the elections to the land parliaments, laender will officially replace the areas [bezirke], which is an important condition for the process of unification with the FRG. Broadly speaking, the areas of Neubrandenburg, Rostock, and Schwerin will form the Land of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania; the areas of Cottbus, Frankfurt/Oder, and Potsdam will become the Land of Brandenburg; the areas of Halle and Magdeburg will become the Land of Saxony-Anhalt; the areas of Dresden, Karl-Marx-Stadt/Chemnitz, and Leipzig will become the Land of Saxony, and the areas of Erfurt, Gera, and Suhl will become the Land of Thuringia. For the time being East Berlin will have the status of a land. [passage omitted]

General Burlakov: Troop Withdrawal on Schedule

LD2107215190 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1900 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Text] The commander of the Soviet Southern Army Group stationed in Hungary has confirmed that they will conclude the troop withdrawal by the deadline. Colonel General Burlakov stated this as he viewed railcars being packed and started off in Zahony in the presence of the West German ambassador and military attache. At this point 15,000 Soviet soldiers and their families have left the country, and 20 percent of the armaments have been shipped across to the Soviet Union. Two trains are received and sent off daily in Zahony. Col.-Gen. Burlakov expressed special thanks to the Hungarian Army and Railways for their good cooperation.

Envoy Views Dismantling of Warsaw Pact

LD2207103790 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0630 GMT 22 Jul 90]

[Report on interview with Ambassador (Bela Kupper) on the "World Clock" program; place and date not given]

[Text] After Jozsef Antall's Brussels trip, we now know for certain that Europe will not welcome a neutral Hungary, to say nothing about the disadvantageous political and economic consequences that would follow were our country to leave the Warsaw Pact. Following the spectacular declaration of our intention to leave, it would seem that everyday diplomacy is characterized by a more nuanced and more tactical working method. So perhaps it is only an apparent inconsistency that while the Hungarian side talks about leaving, it takes part in a meeting on the transformation of the Warsaw alliance. Could it be a question of an internal loosening? This was one of the questions I put to Ambassador (Bela Kupper), who led the Hungarian delegation at the discussions of experts near Prague.

[Begin recording] [(Kupper)] By all means we want to approach this issue in an active and not a passive manner. In other words, as part of our European policy we are also interested in the transformation of the Warsaw Pact, for it matters greatly to us what kind of organization remains after we leave.

[Reporter] During the expert's discussions that just ended, how much progress has been made towards bringing different stances closer to each other?

[(Kupper)] A significant rapprochement can be expected between the standpoints of the member countries. Every member state has declared itself interested in the radical transformation of the Warsaw Pact, and some of the delegations—I would here like to highlight first and foremost the Polish and Czechoslovak delegations, with whom, incidentally, we have cooperated very closely—moved in the direction of the gradual dismantling of the Warsaw Pact's military organizations. In other words, the Hungarian intention to leave the Warsaw Pact's military organization by the end of December 1991 is not an isolated intention within the Pact.

[Reporter] It has officially been announced that within a few months a further summit meeting of the Warsaw Pact political consultative conference will be held. Will the experts meet prior to that summit?

[(Kupper)] This decision came about as a result of a Hungarian initiative; namely, that the member states will hold a summit meeting in Budapest in November this year. Until then, this series of discussions will continue in the pact members' capital cities by rotation, so that by the November session we should be able to submit to the leaderships the proposals connected with the reexamination.

[Reporter] When and if and the Warsaw Pact ceases to exist, what kind of organization or security system could replace it that could guarantee both the security of the region and of the states within the region?

[(Kupper)] The other European processes are to a large extent contributing to the successful presentation of the Hungarian negotiations position. Obviously both the steps which the London NATO summit took concerning the Pact member states and the final end of the Cold War favor the Hungarian proposals currently aimed at the elimination of the Warsaw Pact military organizations. We are building on these European processes; we are trying to make them dynamic; and we undertake an initiating role in them, such as the creation of diplomatic ties between the Hungarian Republic and NATO, established by Antall's Brussels visit. So, to answer your question, we are striving to modify these European relations not only within the Warsaw Pact, but in every other European direction as well.

[Reporter] But so far on the agenda there is no concrete concept which, if you like, could replace the Warsaw Pact.

[(Kupper)] I think that these processses occur simultaneously. Our position is that we should examine these in their reciprocal interconnection, that we should not wait until the new European structures have been created. But, on the contrary—and this Hungarian position is very determined—precisely through the elimination of the military organs, we should give a favorable impetus to the development of a new European security structure. In other words, they should replace each other and not be built into one another. [end recording]

Chamber of Agriculture on Government Policy

LD2007224790 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1600 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] According to the Hungarian Chamber of Agriculture, the measures planned by the Ministry of Agriculture threaten food shortages. In its open letter to Minister of Agriculture Ferenc Nagy, the chamber stresses that a further 200 farms will lose money, and the cultivation of several hundred thousand hectares of land

will be endangered if price compensations are cut by two billion forints in accordance with the plan.

The interest representation organization also considers the government's intention to drastically reduce the agricultural export subsidy as anti- market. Finally, the chamber asks the minister to state his proposals to the agricultural producers living in uncertainty.

Parliament Schedules Next Session for 23 Jul

LD2007173890 Budapest MTI in English 1607 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Budapest, July 20 (MTI)—The acting speaker of the National Assembly convened the next meeting in parliament's special session for 10 am on July 23.

The agenda is expected to include 13 bills and draft resolutions. They will deal with the subjects of self government and the legal status and fees of members of parliament, the regulation of the provisional appointment of national media leaders (Hungarian television, Hungarian radio, MTI) and the frequency moratorium related to radio and TV broadcasts, and the privatization of the press.

The agenda is also to include a parliamentary draft resolution on the 1956 Soviet intervention in Hungary.

Goncz's Remarks at Bratislava News Conference

AU2007105490 Bratislava VEREJNOST in Slovak 13 Jul 90 p 2

[Jana Necasova report: "Promises Are Not Empty"]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] After the end of the talks between Arpad Goncz, interim president of Hungary, and members of the Slovak Government [in Bratislava on 12 July], a brief news conference was held. The journalists' questions concerned the most varied issues being tackled by the governments of both countries, particularly the situation of national minorities in both Hungary and Slovakia.

President Goncz said that it is natural that the Slovak and Hungarian sides must now deal with problems which the revolution brought to the surface. The Hungarian delegation has now come to Bratislava with initiatives and proposals for a solution. It proposes, for instance, that some sort of sub-consulates [podkonzulaty] be set up in Kosice and Bekescsaba as branches of representative missions to help facilitate mutual contacts—not only at the official but also at the personal level.

The Hungarian president condemned nationalistic and chauvinistic manifestations of some individuals and groups in both countries and declared that it is up to each government to eliminate such manifestations in its own country. He greatly appreciated the results of the elections in Slovakia, in which the Hungarian minority gained a dignified representation in the Slovak National Council, and expressed gratitude to the Slovak nation, which has made the Hungarian minority's self-realization in this respect possible. He noted with delight that the solution to nationality problems is one of the foremost points in the program of the Public Against Violence movement.

Asked what Jozsef Antall, the Hungarian premier, meant when he declared that he would like to be the prime minister of 15 million Hungarians, A. Goncz replied that the Hungarian Government has close at heart all Hungarians, regardless of whether they live in Hungary, Slovakia, Romania, Yugoslavia, Australia, or America.

At the same time he called upon Slovak institutions and organizations to support, in the interest of preserving the national identity of Slovaks living in Hungary, their interest in knowledge about themselves, primarily by means of shipments of literature of every kind—textbooks, books for children, religious literature. The aim must be to fill the libraries of Slovak communities in Hungary.

Both our countries strive to enter Europe. This effort will hardly be successful if each of us tries to do it separately but it will surely be successful if we try to do it together, Hungarian President Arpad Goncz said in conclusion.

Szokai Views Romanian Magyardom Issues

LD2207100590 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0630 GMT 22 Jul 90

[Interview with Imre Szokai, deputy state secretary for foreign affairs, by Jozsef P. Szabo on the "World Clock"; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Szokai] I last wrote to my partner on 2 June proposing that discussions between deputy foreign ministers or deputy state secretaries take place as soon as possible. Last Monday the state secretary of the Romanian Foreign Ministry indicated that he would be pleased to come to Budapest to discuss the issues, to which we naturally immediately gave a positive reply. Precise coordination of the timing is now in process. But we want it to happen at all levels, so we shall look for a good time to hold this meeting.

[P. Szabo] concerning the dispute that surfaced this week between the RMDSs [Organization of Magyars in Romania] and the Hungarian Parliament, I heard that the RMDSz representatives might be meeting Jozsef Antall.

[Szokai] I would not dramatize this so-called dispute. For Hungarian policy should the RMDSz as a partner, and it doesn't. As a partner, it absolutely has the right to express an opinion in connection with Hungarian policy. According to the Hungarian political concept, Magyardom constitutes a united whole. Now, if Romanian Magyars constitute a part of Magyardom, then it is their completely natural right to express an opinion about Hungarian political events, just as Hungarian policy also expresses an opinion about their activity. As for the other side of the issues, a meeting with Mr. Premier Antall, there is nothing extraordinary about this either.

Even during the Ceausescu period, the representatives of Romanian Magyardom—who at that time did not represent an organization but themselves and part of the Romanian Magyar intelligentsia—regularly met with the then Hungarian leaders. To the best of my knowledge, incidentally, Mr. Antall has also repeatedly and publicly affirmed that he is ready at any time to meet representatives of Romanian Magyardom as well as representatives of Magyars living anywhere in the world. I firmly trust that this meeting will take place as soon as possible, precisely to consider natural those things that are in reality natural.

Csapody on Government-RMDSz Ties

LD2007134190 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1000 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Report on interview with Miklos Csapodi, member of Foreign Affairs Committee, by Peter Zentai; place and date not given]

[Text] Several misunderstandings have followed the statements on the relationship between the Democratic Federation of Magyars in Romania [RMDSz] and Hungarian policy, that is, whether Hungary regards the RMDSz remarks on the Hungarian nationality policy as intervention. What are we supposed to do about the charge—which, by the way, was firmly rejected by Laszlo Tokes—that the RMDSz is directed from Hungary? Peter Zentai interviewed Miklos Csapodi of the Hungarian Democratic Forum, member of the parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee dealing with nationality issues.

[Begin recording] [Zentai] I heard at the Foreign Affairs Committee session that a certain difference has been evolving between the Hungarian Government and Parliament, and the RMDSz. It would be in the interests of Laszlo Tokes and others that the election system in Hungary be similar to that in Romania, that is, nationality representation be guaranteed by lists instead of this ombudsman system. Then we hear yeterday from Laszlo Tokes that the Romanian Government accused the RMDSz of acting in complicity with the Hungarian Government.

[Csapodi] It is not a question of a difference between the conceptions of the Hungarian Government and the endeavors of the RMDSz. The dissonance might have been caused by the fact that the RMDSz turned to the Hungarian Parliament in a statement calling attention to the lack of resolve on the part of parliamentary representation of the minorities in Hungary.

[Zentai] What do the Tokes visit and your talks with unnamed RMDSz leaders refer to? Are they affecting each other? What is the right term? What is happening?

[Csapodi] We, by taking general responsibility, support the Hungarian national minorities, and they indicate their opinion and help the mother country, naturally, not by means of some kind of intervention into our interior affairs, as this made-up, unfortunate term suggested. There is no question of any intervention. I would refer to the thesis of the president of the Republic that the mother country will not take steps that would infringe the interests of the minorities, and the minorities, when they form their independent—let me stress, independent—uninfluenced, political judgements, should consider the interests of the universal Magyardom.

[Zentai] Is it indeed worth taking the RMDSz notice into account?

[Csapodi] The RMDSz practically represents unity outward and many-coloredness inwards. We, however, have aid the assertion of these concrete political interests, the interests of the minorities. We would like to invite the leaders of the RMDSz, RMDSz parliamentary deputies or senators, to inspect general parliamentary work and the Foreign Affairs Committee's special work.

[Zentai] And how about the RMDSz request that its leaders would like to meet Premier Jozsef Antall?

[Csapodi] It has no theoretical or practical obstacles, it is natural, as national minorities represent not only the objects, but also the subjects of this whole circle of problems. They can turn, and they will turn, to the Hungarian Government and its leader.

Antall Remarks on Austrian Neutrality Explained

LD2007225390 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1000 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Excerpt] [Announcer] Just as in the past weeks, a spokesman's briefing on the government session the previous day was held in the parliament building on the morning following the session. Zsuzsa Vajda represented Midday Chronicle:

[Vajda] Balazs Laszlo, the government spokesman, began his briefing today with a correction.

[Begin Laszlo recording] There is still reaction in the newspapers to the remark—that is—brief observation, by Premier Jozsef Antall at the Brussels press conference regarding Austria's possible, or planned, joining of the EC. Certain Austrian papers are increasingly presenting this as if the Hungarian premier might have demanded [as heard] or condemned Austria's perpetual neutrality, as if he might have encouraged Austria to abandon neutrality. This is not how it was said.

The issue at hand is merely—and this is what he said at the press conference—that to our best knowledge, neutrality which is proclaimed constitutionally, by international law, as a commitment, can be an obstacle to membership in the European Community. Perpetual neutrality can therefore be an obstacle for such countries—and we mentioned Austria as an example—in being admitted into the EC. For this reason—and he added this—while the Hungarian Government's resolute and announced intention is to withdraw in a settled manner, through negotiations, from the Warsaw Pact's armed organization, Hungary and, with it, the Hungarian Government, are not preparing to declare a neutral status in any form according to international law,

but rather is endeavoring to embed and base the country's future security in the hoped-for and desired new collective European Security system. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Official Briefs Government on Romanian Dialogue

LD2007154690 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1300 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Romulus Neagu, state secretary in the Bucharest Foreign Ministry, will visit Budapest next week. The Hungarian foreign minister announced this in his briefing on international politics at the government session. Bucharest moved last week to establish a Romanian-Hungarian dialogue. Geza Jeszenszky emphasized that in Hungary's judgment, Romania fears possible international isolation, which is why it wishes to hold talks with our country. As the foreign minister said, the dialogue can be continued at a higher level only if the Romanians do something to improve relations. Geza Jeszenszky also spoke about the affair of the Bos-Nagymaros [gabcikovo-nagymaros] dam. As he said, the Slovak Government unfortunately holds a more rigid position than the federal government in Prague. Apparently it is mostly the Slovaks who want the power station on the Boes stretch of the dam to be put in operation.

Soviet Troop Talks in Swidnica End 20 Jul

LD2007182590 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1730 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Report on interview with government delegation leader Henryk Debicki by unidentified reporter; place and date not given]

[Text] Talks have ended in Swidnica between the leaders of the Polish and Soviet Governments on matters concerning the Soviet Army's temporary stationing in Poland.

[Begin recording] [Debicki] What specifically did we talk about and with whom? The first matter was the problem of the Soviet authorities handing over buildings and houses in Legnica to the urban authorities. We decided that a review would be made of the all the property at the disposal of the Soviet troops and a verification of their needs, and a decision made on what can presently be handed over to the town. A commission starts up on Monday, which is to begin this work. The next matter was payments for the use of the natural environment. That means payment for water and air. They have not been paying up to now. These problems now have to be...[word indistinct].

[Reporter] Will they pay?

[Debicki] Yes.

[Reporter] The matter of transferring the command of the Soviet Army Troops Northern Group for Swidnica to Legnica is at the forefront of Lower Silesians minds. When will that happen?

[Debicki] I think it will be at the turn of the year. [end recording]

Ogrodniki Border Crossing Reopened 21 Jul

LD2107190690 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1800 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Text] In accordance with an announcement, the Polish-Lithuanian border crossing at Ogrodniki Lazdijai was reopened today to tourist traffic. The restrictions were introduced by the Soviet authorities at the beginning of April and were in force for 108 days. During that time Polish citizens could only cross at the border with Soviet visas.

Restrictions on Border Traffic With USSR

LD2207195190 Warsaw PAP in English 1837 GMT 22 Jul 90

[Text] Warsaw, July 22—The USSR Council of Ministers announced its decision to introduce temporary restrictions in passenger traffic, among other things at the Polish-Soviet border. According to unofficial information, the restrictions are allegedly to cover only Soviet citizens, the Polish Foreign Ministry announced today.

The Soviet Government said that the restrictions are aimed against the "abnormal situation" at the border and against smuggling and speculating with goods that are in short supply in the USSR. The Polish authorities have not been informed yet about the contents of the decision.

The Polish authorities have many a time declared their willingness to take up detailed talks and adopt bilateral settlements in order to facilitate the border traffic, the Polish Foreign Ministry recalled.

Taking into account the situation of Poles living in the USSR and the local problems in the passenger traffic between Poland and the Ukraine stemming from restrictions introduced by the Lvov authorities on July 20, the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs stated that travellers who obey the law should not suffer restrictions contrary to the spirit of the CSCE process confirmed in this regard by the conferences in Vienna and Copenhagen.

Trade in Military Equipment Declines

LD2007174590 Warsaw PAP in English 1608 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Warsaw, July 20—In the first half of 1990 exports of the Polish military equipment to the countries with which settlements are made in roubles totalled 403.3 million roubles, while exports to hard currency countries amounted to 17.7 millon dollars, PAP learnt in the Ministry for Foreign Economic Relations.

In the same period imports from the former countries reached 193.2 million roubles, while from the latter ones—1.5 million dollars.

Both imports and exports of military equipment were lower than in the same period of 1989.

Mazowiecki Meets With Army Leadership

LD2007192290 Warsaw PAP in English 1725 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Warsaw, July 20: "I am aware that our peaceful transition owes much to the attitude of the Army. The results of the elections on July 4 in Army electoral districts showed that the Army, which like the whole society rejects the old system, favours building a new citizen's state, fully sovereign and independent," said Polish Premier Tadeusz Mazowiecki at a meeting with the leadership of the Polish Army here today.

The meeting was attended by members of the leadership of the Defence Ministry with Minister, Vice-Admiral Piotr Kolodziejczyk, by commanders of military districts, forces and tactical units.

"One should in the first place see the qualitatively new situation of Poland in Europe," the premier said. "To a considerable extent, it is the result of the international situation. The to-date system of two opposite military blocs is being re-evaluated. It will have its impact on the

tasks of the Armed Forces, on the distribution of units and logistic base, as well as the manpower of our Army, its structure and organization."

"Like many other countries, Poland is unable to ensure her full security in no matter what circumstances on the basis of her own defensive potential. It (this potential) is, however, sufficient to carry total defence which should be aimed to discourage a potential enemy from aggression against or imposition of a non-sovereign solution on Poland," Premier Mazowiecki stated.

The premier also talked about consequences of the changes going on in the neighbouring countries, namely of the processes of German unification and perestroika in the USSR.

He pointed to the need for a more active cooperation with Czechoslovakia and Hungary, Scandinavian countries and regional groupings in Western Europe.

"We also want to establish best possible contacts with NATO," Premier Mazowiecki stated.

"We view the Warsaw Treaty as a defensive alliance and not an instrument of influencing the political and economic system and order of the states-parties to it. It has lost its ideological role," Mazowiecki said.

He also underlined that Poland will care that the treaty be an alliance of sovereign, equal states that have full control over their Armed Forces.

"The government's line on the defence issues is clear. Poland needs a strong Army. The nation needs loyal soldiers. The state must have a stable pillar of its power. The Polish wise revolution rejects concepts of violent accelerations, purges, of disrupting the Army structures, using the Army and other organs of power for private struggles. The Army has to be a stable element of the whole state and nation," Premier Mazowiecki stated.

Discusses Role of Armed Forces

LD2207130790 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 0605 GMT 22 Jul 90

[Report on statement by Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki at a meeting with Army leadership in Warsaw; date not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Mazowiecki] I would first like to express my satisfaction at having the chance to meet such a wide and representative company of military men. Our meeting is taking place at an important point, albeit a difficult one, compared with all the events of the last year. I am aware that our great peaceful transition owes much to the attitude of the Armed Forces. Election results, both in open and especially in closed army electoral districts, have shown that the Army, like the whole of society, rejects the old system and favors the construction of a new citizen's state, one which is fully sovereign and independent.

One may recall here, when thinking about it, the words of the 3 May constitution which said: The Army is nothing but an extended defense and [word indistinct] force drawn from the nation. The nation owes its Army an award and respect for the fact that it devotes itself to its defense. The Army owes the nation the defense of the borders and universal peace; in a word, it should be its strongest shield. In order that this is unmistakably fulfilled, it should continue to be at the disposal of the executive authority, in keeping with the description of the law.

These words, written almost 200 years ago, are still valid today. The Army, as the nation's Armed Forces, a common guardian of independence and sovereignty of the state, cannot be a tool of just one political orientation, or just one party. It should serve the state and its needs. It is especially important for the state's and its own needs. It is especially important during the state's and nation's breakthrough moments, ones that we are witnessing today.

[Announcer] [passage omitted] Concluding his address, the prime minister said:

[Mazowiecki] I will end by quoting words of the greatest Polish authority—namely, Pope John Paul II—words he said during his latest pilgrimage at the Westerplatte, the revered spot of Polish national and military traditions. He said: The future of Poland depends on you, and it must depend on you—this is our homeland, this is our "to be" and our "to have," and nobody can deprive us of our right in that the future of our "being" and "having" depends on us. Well, generals and officers; it is on the Army, its role, its significance in the state as a stable force, that our "being" and our "having" will always depend—on us, the Polish nation, and nobody else. Thank you. [applause]

Solidarity '80 Condemns Mazowiecki Policy

LD2007192490 Warsaw PAP in English 1743 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Szczecin, July 20—The coordinating commission of the Solidarity 80, an organizxation opposed to the Solidarity led by Lech Walesa, termed the policy of Tadeusz Mazowiecki's government as "distinictly anti-peasant and anti-rural" in a resolution adopted at its latest meeting.

The commission turned also to the Sejm (lower house) to halt legislative work on a draft law concerning restitution of the Solidarity property until the Soldiarity '80 gains a legal status.

Citizens Committee Votes To Stay Independent

LD2207191290 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1700 GMT 22 Jul 90

[Text] Citizens Committees [KO] representatives held a nearly six-hour meeting, with representatives from all the regions of Poland present. Prime Minister Tadeusz

Mazowiecki and Solidarity Chairman Lech Walesa did not take part in the meeting—the former due to flu and the latter has his hand in plaster.

Following protracted procedural matters, the election of a chairman of the forum, as well as of a commission for mandates and suggestions, a letter from Lech Walesa was read out, in which the Solidarity leader emphasized that the most important matter is to back the autonomy of the local committees. Talking about the coming elections, Walesa's opinion was that the committees should take care not to permit anyone to impose anything on them. Look at yourselves as parliamentary candidates, decide for yourselves whom you want to support; this is the essence of your civic role. The citizen wants to cooperate with others for the good of the community, but also wants to do that of his own free will, Lech Walesa emphasized in a letter to those gathered in the Sejm Chamber of Columns.

Zdzislaw Najder, who manages the KO attached to the Independent Self-Governing Trade Union [NSZZ] Solidarity chairman, also spoke about the inviolability of the principle of autonomy of the KOs. Zdzislaw Najder also emphasized that in recent months, according to public opinion polls, a crisis is being observed and confidence in the government is declining. In Poland the feeling of insecurity is becoming more intense and people are loosing hope. Precisely the recreation of hope and the stimulation of the social and political activity of our compatriots should at the present be the important task of the KOs.

As a result of today's forum of KOs, the participants came out virtually unanimous in favor of their independent activity but with the maintenance of cooperation with the KO attached to the chairman of NSZZ Solidarity. They also came out in favor of the committees becoming a place for cooperation of all the citizens who identify with the Solidarity ethos. The suggestion, however, was not accepted that they are to be a forum for the cooperation of political parties and groups. The overwhelming majority of the participants in the forum came out in favor of committees cooperating in a forum of a national conference in the voting. It was decided, however, not to appoint a central representation or structure.

One more important thing: It was decided during today's deliberations that representatives of those structures that took part in the meetings on 30 June and 1 July have the right to vote. During the discussion, political differences that arose during the previous meetings made themselves felt. During one of the speeches, it was suggested that the committees become the place for action by organized civic groups. It was also suggested that an appeal be addressed to parliament to set a date for presidential elections, as well as to both chambers of the National Assembly. It was proposed that the new parliament should start its work at the latest on 3 May 1991. In the end this proposition was not voted on. The next meeting of the KOs was announced for 10 September, also in the Sejm Chamber of Columns.

ROAD Representatives Meet With Parliamentarians

LD2007202790 Warsaw PAP in English 1922 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Warsaw, July 20—Those for whom we really care for essential reasons have declared their membership, thereby creating a possibility to create a circle of the Citizens' Movement-Democratic Action (ROAD) at the Citizens' Parliamentary Club (OKP). This means that we will be able to realize some of our political postulates with the help of the parliamentary circle, Zbigniew Bujak told PAP, assessing today's meeting between ROAD representatives and deputies and senators.

Until today the founding declaration of the ROAD has been signed by 35 deputies and senators. Preliminary estimates speak of 4,000 names on the list of signatories.

The ROAD opts for changes conforming to the binding law, that is for the continuation of the philosophy of the activity of Tadeusz Mazowiecki's government. However, there is a danger that, faced with difficult economic conditions, people will go to the streets and thus start deciding about what is going on in this country. The fear of this made us found the grouping, Bujak stated.

There is no constitutional possibility to make a change at the office of president. Pressure may be exerted but for universal elections to be held needed is an amendment to the constitution, which is not easy as it turns out, Senator Lech Koziol said. The ROAD suggested that parliamentary elections might be held next spring. Few deputies and senators who took the floor were of similar opinion.

The discussion focused on the following questions: is the ROAD leftist? Is the line of division between the grouping and the centre (agreement) programmatic or personal?

The division into the left and right is artificial in our situation. To label somebody as representing leftist orientation is an attempt to discredit this person, Wladyslaw Frasyniuk stated.

We are grouping ourselves around a certain vision of Poland and not against or for somebody, Bujak explained. In his opinion it is too early for the ROAD to propose its own candidate for president, the more so that the procedure of his election is not known yet.

Following is the list of deputies and senators-signatories to the ROAD: Andrzej Celinski, Maria Dmochowska, Jozefa Hennelowa, Gustaw Holoubek, Cezary Jozefiak, Andrzej Kosmalski, Zofia Kuratowska, Jacek Kuron, Barbara Labuda, Jan Litynski, Andrzej Lapicki, Henryk Michalak, Adam Michnik, Janusz Okrzesik, Edward Wende, Jerzy Regulski, Jan M. Rokita, Gabriela Cwojdzinska, Dorota Simonides, Grazyna Staniszewska, Andrzej Szczepkowski, Witold Trzeciakowski, Andrzej Wajda, Andrzej Wielowieyski, Henryk Wujec, Jerzy Zdrada, Tadeusz Zielinski, Stanislaw Zytkowski, Ryszard Ganowicz, Stanislaw Zurowski, Marian Janusz

Czerwinski, Henryk Z. Wilk, Andrzej Szczypiorski, Wladyslaw Liwak, Wiktor Kulerski.

Present Program at News Conference

LD2107165290 Warsaw PAP in English
1559 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Text] Wroclaw, July 21: I think that the present summer, like 10 years ago, will bring events that will make history, chairman of the board of the Lower Silesian region of Solidarnosc started his press conference today. He explained the goals of action and prospects for the Democratic Action Citizen's Movement ("ROAD"). Alongside Zbigniew Bujak, Wladyslaw Frasyniuk is the "ROAD" 's national spokesman.

Frasyniuk assured that the "ROAD" was not in opposition to Lech Walesa. We set up this party to strengthen the government expecting society to actively support it. There are important differences between the programme of the "ROAD" and that of the Centre Agreement [Center Accord] but we cannot ignore the community of goals. We still do not have a complete programe for the economy and its changes. On July 28, the full composition of the "ROAD" founding committee will gather to define the most important programmatic tasks for the coming future.

Asked whether the "ROAD" planned to present its own candidate for president, Frasyniuk said that a decision on this issue would depend to a great extent on a stand of parliament that should soon determine questions of electing the president.

Senate Session Debates Civil Code Amendments

LD1907224190 Warsaw PAP in English
2155 GMT 19 Jul 90

[Text] Warsaw, July 19: The Polish Senate in its 28th meeting today launched a legislative initiative on setting up a new distinction—a cross for the 1918-1921 Polish-Soviet war. The cross is to be conferred by the Polish president upon all participants in that war, living in Poland and abroad, by August 15, 1991.

The Senate decided to present amendments to the civil code amended by the Sejm (lower house) last week. The chamber approved the law on terminating labour contracts with appointed civil servants employed in main and central organs of state administration and in local organs of government administration and the law on assemblies and on the code of civil procedure.

The Senate expressed its approval for the appointment of Senator Zbigniew Romaszewski as chairman of the Supreme Board of Control (Nik).

The chamber's Presidium expressed its regret over the fact of arson and devastation of an orthodox church in Grabarka, near Suwalki, north-east Poland, and decided to earmark 50 million zloties for the reconstruction of this historical temple.

Sejm Session Discusses Education 20 Jul

LD2007221890 Warsaw PAP in English
2055 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Warsaw, July 20: Discussion on higher schooling predominated in debates held on the second day of the Sejm meeting today.

On Rakowski Government

The chamber resolved to assess Mieczyslaw F. Rakowski cabinet performance next week. The special commission prepared a draft law which said that despite initiating certain necessary changes, the activities by the government of Mieczyslaw Rakowski brought about the deepening of the economic crisis in Poland.

Ireneusz Sekula, Mieczyslaw Wilczek and Andrzej Wroblewski were those cabinet members who were present at meetings of the special comission. Mieczyslaw Rakowski attended only one meeting though he was invited to participate in all sessions. He said he was unable to turn up because of poor health condition and added that other members of the former government represented him.

On New Head of NIK [Supreme Chamber of Control]

The chamber resolved to appoint a new head of the supreme board of control next Friday. Professor Andrzej Gaberle of the Jagiellonian University (Krakow) and Senator Zbigniew Romaszewski are running for the office.

On New Farming Minister

The Sejm committee for agriculture and food economy pointed today to an urgent need to appoint new farming minister. The committee asked the prime minister and Sejm's presidium to present a candidate for the post.

On Law on Higher Schooling

Deputies held a many-hour discussion on the bill on higher schooling and on academic degrees. In general, the bill envisages the independence of higher schools in Poland. Some of the deputies however looked at the draft with a critical eye and said it failed to bring a new concept of a higher school that would heed the present economic conditions. The voting on the bill will take place on Saturday.

Decorations for 1918-1921 War

No deputy questioned the need to satisfy some 400 participants in the 1918-1921 war between Poland and the Soviet Union, who are still living. The chamber stressed that also citizens of other countries who joined the Polish Army during that war should be decorated.

Deputies' Statements

Deputy Janusz Dobrosz (Polish Peasant Party) asked the Sejm to oblige the foreign minister to deliver a report on the two-plus-four talks and the decisions made in Paris.

The Sejm will resume the debate on Saturday.

Concludes 3-Day Session

LD2107165790 Warsaw PAP in English
1537 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Text] Warsaw, July 21—On the third and last day of its meeting, the Sejm (lower house) concluded work on the bills on higher education and on scientific titles and degrees and voted them in.

It also founded "The Cross for Participation in the (Polish-Bolshevik) War of 1918-1921". It is estimated that some 400 participants of that war live to this day.

The Sejm held debates on the Senate and parliamentary draft laws on returning property taken over by the state.

The Sejm also adopted a resolution in which it obliged the government to speed up the process of liquidating central and voivodship cooperative unions and to wrap up work on this by the end of September.

Next Session To Be Held 26-28 Jul

LD2107170690 Warsaw PAP in English
1541 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Text] Warsaw, July 21—The Sejm (Lower house) will hold its next meting July 26-28.

The Sejm will acquaint itself with reports on the execution of the state budget for 1989, a report on the execution of the credit plan and provisions of the money-credit policy in 1989, on the payments balance for 1989, on the current servicing of the foreign debt and the state's foreign dues for 1989, on the work of the special commission for analyzing and assessing the performance of the previous government, and with a statement of the minister of foreign affairs.

Fidelity Party, Independence Groups Meet

LD2107193690 Warsaw PAP in English
1716 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Text] Warsaw, July 21—A meeting of independence formations, initiated by the Party of Fidelity to the Republic-Congress of the Solidarity of the Nation, was held here today. A political coordinating committee was set up, the proclamation of which was signed by representatives of the Party of Fidelity to the Republic, the Solidarnosc Independence Party from Gdansk, the Federation of the Fighting Youth from Krakow and students of the Lublin Catholic University.

We set ourselves the goal to consult Poland's most important questions from the positions of independence and partriotism, Chairman of the Party of Fidelity to the Republic Wojciech Ziembinski told PAP.

We will strive to as swiftly as possible adopt proportionate regulations to elect the Sejm and majority regulations to elect the Senate and to elect a constituent-National Assembly empowered to take over constitutional prerogatives of sovereignty from Poland's legal authorities in exile.

Also, the presidency and the formation of a provisional government of national solidarity are lined to our proposals. We stress that we want to subordinate all possible personnel questions to the national reason of state.

New Agrarian Movement Formed in Koszalin

LD2107200190 Warsaw PAP in English
1821 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Text] Koszalin, July 21—A new political group, the "Rola" Movement of the People's-Agrarian Option was established in Koszalin today.

It was set up by the Rural Solidarity chapters of six voivodships. "This is an alliance for a thrifty, sovereign Poland," Piotr Baumgart, one of the co-founders said.

The founding declaration was signed by 34 participants of the debates who make up the provisional national founding convention.

"The movement is a response to the establishment of the 'Road' Citizen's Movement-Democratic Action. The 'Rola' favours parliamentary democracy, political and economic pluralism, division of power into legislative, executive and judicial, democratic elections to parliament and of the president still this year. The movement advocates an intensification of farming and food processing, a fast rebuilding of the rural infrastructure. Politically the 'Rola' backs the 'centre' agreement [Center Accord], in other words an acceleration of political and economic transformations, including through the use of decrees, and a constitution elaborated by a democratic parliament before the 200th anniversary of the May 3rd constitution," Baumgart said.

Securitate Allegedly Still Active; Forces Rotated

LD2107185190 Hamburg DPA in German 1453 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Text] Hamburg (DPA)—The Romanian secret service, the Securitate, which for decades terrorized the people for Nicolae Ceausescu, the dictator executed in December, has allegedly managed to preserve its organization in the post-Ceausescu era by means of a simple trick. The Hamburg news magazine DER SPIEGEL reports in tomorrow's edition that, following unpleasant incidents when Securitate victims recognized their former persecutors, a nationwide rotation of agents was carried out. The secret service now serves President Ion Iliescu, who was elected in May, under the new name 'Serviciul Roman de Informatii.'

Exposed secret service officials in particular have been transferred to distant regions, such as from the Banat to Moldavia or from Translyvania to Oltenia, where no one knows them personally, the magazine says. DER SPIEGEL says that the methods have largely remained the same: Telephones are tapped, mail censored, and dissidents threatened. Espionage activity has also been stepped up in the Army, from which, the new rulers believe, there is danger of a coup.

Mail Tampering, Phone Tapping Denied

AU2307095890 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0927 GMT 23 Jul 90

[Text] Bucharest, 23 Jul (ROMPRES)—Andrei Chirica, minister of communications, dismissed allegations abroad according to which in Romania letters are tempered with and phone conversations are tapped.

Expressing the belief that the problem had been definitely clarified by the statements of representatives of the Ministry of National Defence, the Romanian minister said: "Like practices, which had nothing to do with the post and telecommunications personnel, were altogether liquidated. The fact that unchecked statements are made is regrettable."

"In the spirit of the transparence our government promotes we are willing to provide anyone interested, journalists and experts, with everything they need to see for themselves that the secret of correspondence and phone calls is not violated in this country," Mr. Chirica also said.

Iliescu News Conference on Global Image, Reform

AU2007194890 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1930 GMT 20 Jul 90

["Political Life—President Iliescu's Press Conference"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, 20 Jul (ROMPRES)—This afternoon Mr. Ion Iliescu, Romania's president, has met with Romanian and foreign journalists at the Cotroceni architectural complex. During the interview attended by over 100 journalists there were presented concerns of the presidency on the country's realities.

On the occasion the journalists had the opportunity to see round the architectural complex hosting the country's presidency as well as the future museum to be arranged in the former Cotroceni Royal Palace.

We have reached the stage of approaching the fundamental questions connected with the transition to the market economy, stated President Ion Iliescu at his Friday's meeting with journalists, making the balance sheet of the two months since the elections.

Having made reference to the creation of democratic institutions—Parliament, presidency and government—the president showed that the setting up of the executive represented a materialization of some of the reform's fundamental ideas. We have departed from the heavy structure of old ministries with their administrative-bureaucratic leading methods, a more flexible government has been formed with less ministries whose functions are modifying for the de-centralization of decisions. A conceptual change has taken place which is to be materialized at the level of basic units, too, the president said inter alia.

The questions to be solved are not at all simple but complex, their solving requires the joint action of all forces; they are complex also because of the current situation still affected by social confrontations, president showed insisting on the necessity of social quietness.

We did not manage to shake off social confrontations in the past two months either, when we tried to restore peace in the centre of the capital, the president also said, attributing the responsibility for all that to forces who try to destabilize the country at all costs.

The Romanian head of state deplored the fact that his appeal for social peace, which was meant for all political forces, had not been answered by them all and considered in the negative the fact that there had been people who unilaterally presented the events in the country. We want an open dialogue including confrontations of ideas and we want to share a joint platform when the country's interests are at stake.

Our image in the world is not an obsession; it is the result of an objective factor now when we make changes inside our country, opting for a decisive course of openness to the world. There is no question of conjuring our controversions away, as they reflect the very dynamism of our political life. We owe to the world an as realistic as possible image of our country, rather than a distored presentation that might discredit us, so that we can be understood as we are, with our hardships and our weaknesses, with the wounds we inherited from long years of dictatorship, the president said.

Answering a question in connection with the visit President Vaclav Havel is to pay to Romania, the Romanian head of state made reference to the positive traditions of

the bilateral relations, the ties always based on mutual interests and support. I know of no conflicts in our bilateral relations...on the contrary, the president added.

Mr. Iliescu stated that Vaclav Havel's visit was expected with great interest after their first contact in Moscow. There are premises, he said, for the development of our relations on all planes. The possibilities of collaboration in the economic domain which have always existed will expand, the two countries' economies being complementary. As regards science, culture and other domains, bilateral collaboration also has broad possibilities, the president showed.

Commenting on the controversial issue of the Ecological University in Bucharest, Romania's president said he had no objections to the initiative as it was but that he had been amazed at the haste with which it was created, at the winding routes that had been taken in conditions in which the parliament had not approached a law to regulate the legal status of private education and, therefore, the question had not been clarified yet.

Showing that as far as the objections to that university were concerned he had not been consulted, the president said that it was not impossible for like initiatives to materialize, showing his only reserves to be linked to the superficiality and haste of the creation of that university.

Answering other questions, President Ion Iliescu stated that the Balkanic dimension is an attribute of the Romanian foreign policy of friendship with other peoples. In the context of our Europe policy, the president said, we shall pay special attention to our neighbours and to the Balkan community. He said that he had discussed with the foreign minister some initiatives concerning the bilateral relations with the countries in the region and the common policy of the Balkan states as an initiative factor in the general European equilibrium. The president welcomed the positive way in which the Greek people and its political institutions had approached the events in Romania.

Deputies' Chamber Session Faces Economic Issues

AU2007152290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0823 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Bucharest, 20 Jul (ROMPRES)—The Assembly of Deputies resumed Friday morning [20 July] by-article debate on the bill regarding the reorganization of state economic units as autonomous enterprises and trading companies. This normative act is viewed by the Parliament as particularly important for the future of the Romanian national economy. Consequently, the deputies thoroughly and responsibly look into the law provisions, inspired by the wish to work out principles and solutions in compliance with the country's realities. Present in the parliament's meeting hall, government representatives actively cooperate with parliamentarians in amending, according to demands, some of the bill provisions.

Before approaching the agenda, the speaker of the chamber, Mr. Dan Martian, requested the credentials commission to analyse, in accordance with the rules in force, the proposals for the occupation of the vacant seats following the withdrawal of deputies who were appointed in other possts incompatible with the parliamentary quality. As already reported, the vacant seats are to be occupied by their alternates on the electoral lists.

Education Reform Debated

AU2007204090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1747 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Bucharest, 20 Jul (ROMPRES)—In the second half of today's session of the Assembly of Deputies, the chairman of the Education, Science, Youth and Sports Standing Commission, deputy Mihail Gelu, read a motion which suggests, upon request by the management board of the newly-created relevant ministry, a number of amendments to the law of lyceum and university education, which was adopted on May 12, 1990. The authors of the motion consider that the old leadership of the Ministry of Instruction made a number of decisions on the organization and unfolding of instruction in the 1990-1991 academic year that caused discontent and tension among people.

The amendments suggested in the motion are intended to provide for a fine organization in the new school and academic year and to remove all the phenomena that were reasons for controversial reactions on the part of the population. They also consider the restructuring made in the organization of school and university instruction this academic year against the background of the requirements of national minorities, of ethnic Hungarians in particular.

Several parliamentarians took the floor and showed that those amendments, which are of great importance and have certain implications, should be discussed within the specialized standing commission of the Assembly of Deputies and then submitted for approval to the plenum of the chamber. Consequently, the adoption of the motion was postponed for next week, a postponement to which the Assembly of Deputies agreed.

The same day, the Assembly of Deputies approved ten of the articles of the bill on the reorganization of state-run economic units as autonomous units and commercial companies. The rest of the articles will be analysed starting Tuesday [24 July], when the proceedings in plenum resume.

Nicu Ceausescu Trial Continues in Bucharest

37 Witnesses Heard 20 Jul

AU2007203890 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1753 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Bucharest, 20 Jul (ROMPRES)—As many as 37 witnesses were heard in the trial versus Nicu Ceausescu,

who is accused of genocide and breach of the fire-arms law. In light of the new elements resulting from the July 16-20 debates, the defence counsel appealed for further testimony. After deliberations, the court agreed to hear other witnesses.

* New Trial Details Reviewed

90BA0213A Bucharest TINERETUL LIBER in Romanian 7 Jul 90 pp 1, 4

[Interview with Nicu Ceausescu's lawyer Paula Iacob by Virgil Mihailovici; place and date not given; first paragraph is TINERETUL LIBER introduction]

[Text] A few days ago on the Tarom flight from Sibiu to Bucharest I met Attorney Paula Iacob, who has the difficult mission of defending Nicu Ceausescu. I was in luck. Mrs. Iacob was just returning from Aiud, where she had had another interview with her client. I naturally seized the opportunity to ask her a few questions, to which she kindly answered.

[Iacob] I was hired in this trial with my consent. I could, of course, have refused, as friends and colleagues advised me to, but I didn't like the idea of refusing to defend a man just so as to protect myself from hotheads thirsty for revenge and blinded by hatred, and it was not in my character to turn it down.

[Mihailovici] More than one month has passed since the beginning of the trial. Now it's been recessed, although that does not apply to the defending lawyer, since I see you coming back from Sibiu.

[Iacob] As soon as I read the file I noticed some weak points in the case of the prosecution and in Nicu Ceausescu's replies to the questioning. There are still many controversial facts, and while it is easy for the prosecutor to sustain the charges and Nicu has built a defense in which I personally believe, it is up to the judge to find the path of truth through this labyrinth. I love the city of Sibiu and as it happens I have many friends here, so that I have means of knowing what the people of Sibiu think, how they lived, and especially what they expect from this trial...

[Mihailovici] What do they expect?

[Iacob] Most of the people with whom I talked—and I also received letters—and even the priest who taught me religion in elementary school asked me to pursue the line of defense that I have been pursuing so far; everyone asked me to do everything possible to prove that this man was innocent.

[Mihailovici] Perhaps innocent of genocide, but what about the other charges? Where does the trial now stand?

[Iacob] The prosecution has brought forth new hostile witnesses, which is not often done, since the general evidence was obtained in the course of the investigation. There was also something else: it was decided to hear new witnesses and statements that had not been included in the indictment, which the defendant will hear together with the new evidence that the prosecution will present in its speech.

[Mihailovici] As you are coming from a new meeting with him, we are curious to find out what he said.

[Iacob] What he has been saying from the beginning, namely that before his personal case is settled, he is interested in having the truth established. In particular, why so many people continued to die even after 22 December. Both his claim and his question seem very logical, in view of the fact that he left Sibiu on 22 September around noon, while the militia and securitate commanding officers who allegedly gave the order to shoot were arrested by Lieutenant Colonel Dragomir around the same time on the same day. Nevertheless, there was shooting in Sibiu as late as on 30 December, people were shot in their homes, a rocket went inside the hospital or something like that, and fire was even opened from a helicopter...

[Mihailovici] What business did you have in Sibiu?

[Iacob] I went there to present material about another defendant, Vasile Visan, who is still being investigated by both civilian and military prosecution for having escorted Nicu Ceausescu to the airport on 22 December. I also went for an interview with Nicu in Aiud, where I was accompanied by a journalist from STERN who was kept waiting at the gate from 1100 to 1300, although he had all the authorizations possible. Nicu had just had his medical, and his diagnosis is still the same one: cirrhosis.

[Mihailovici] What do you think the verdict will be?

[Iacob] I cannot tell, but I can only hope for a good solution, if the evidence continues like so far, there is at the least a doubt in favor of the defendant in the file.

[Mihailovici] Which you can of course not reveal...

[Iacob] I cannot because I am not the judge, only the one to solicit such a situation. A lawyer must have the courage to do everything that must be done, must say everything that can be said in defense of one's client, and must have faith in the judicial authorities and personally, I have faith in the capacity of the trial panel to weigh the evidence, even if Mr. Ursu is no longer its chairman.

[Mihailovici] Nevertheless, how does Nicu feel, what does he say, what does he do? I'm asking because, despite the freedom that the press has won, we still don't have access to him, although our foreign colleagues do. Do you think that the quality of the trial will suffer in the wake of the appointment of Mr. Doru Viorel Ursu as the new minister of the interior?

[Iacob] In contrast to the situation that prevailed after the material was presented and until the trial, I have a feeling that Nicu is now calmer. But I also think that his physical condition is causing a sort of tiredness, which at this latest interview seemed to me to be coupled with

apathy. The only thing that he really wants is to have the truth established about the events in Sibiu.

Trial of Former PEC Officials To Resume 23 Jul

AU2107185290 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1700 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Text] Bucharest territorial Military Tribunal today began the trial brought against 24 members of the Political Executive Committee [PEC] of the former Romanian Communist Party. These are: Stefan Andrei, Lina Ciobanu, Nicolae Constantin, Silviu Curticeanu, Gheorghe David, Constantin Dascalescu, Miu Dobrescu, Ludovic Fazekas, Suzana Gadea, Mihai Gere, Nicolae Giosan, Ana Muresan, Paul Niculescu-Mizil, Constantin Olteanu, Gheorghe Oprea, Gheorghe Pana, Dumitru Popescu, Constantin Radu, Ion Radu, Gheorghe Radulescu, Ion Stoian, Iosif Szasz, Ioan Toma, and Ioan Totu. They are charged with the crime of genocide as stipulated in Article 357 under items "a" and "b" of the Penal Code.

Calling the list of the defendants, the tribunal noted the absence of defendants Constantin Dascalescu, Nicolae Giosan, and Gheorghe Radulescu because, according to the report of the Jilava prison director, their state of health does not permit their presence at the tribunal.

Proceeding to the requests lodged by some defendants in conformity with procedural regulations, Lawyer Mircea Stanculescu, who is assisting defendants Silviu Curticeanu, Mihai Gere, and Constantin Radu, requested that the president of the panel of judges be rejected. This demand was explained by invoking the incompatibility of Justice General Ion Nistor on the grounds that he had been involved in the trial of Nicolae and Elena Ceausescu, who were found guilty and sentenced for committing the same crime, thus establishing an indivisible and connective link between the two cases.

Therefore, according to Penal Code procedures, the participation in this case of a judge—who had previously expressed his view on its solution—is incompatible.

Following secret deliberations, the Bucharest territorial Military Tribunal approved the rejection request and set 23 July at 0900 hours as the new date for resuming the proceedings.

Human Rights Meeting Demands Munteanu's Release

AU2207190990 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1700 GMT 22 Jul 90

[Text] A meeting began in Bucharest's Opera Square at 1830 [1530 GMT] in support of the protection of human rights in Romania, and the resolution of the case of Students League President Marian Munteanu.

This event has been organized by the Students League of Bucharest Polytechnic Institute, the Association of Architecture Students, the Society of Medical Students, the Trade Union of Economy Students, and the Trade Union of Students of the Institute of Petroleum and Gas in Ploiesti.

The meeting began with chants of Marian Munteanu's name, who, as is known, was arrested during the 13 to 15 June events in Bucharest. Numerous participants in the meeting were carrying placards demanding the release of those who were arrested in June.

A prayer was said and all participants kneeled down to observe a moment of silence in honor of the martyrs of the Romanian revolution of December 1989.

Several speakers criticized the government. Anticommunist and antigovernment slogans were chanted.

The meeting in Bucharest's Opera Square continues at this time.

'Several Thousand' Attend

AU2207191590 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1717 GMT 22 Jul 90

[Text] Bucharest, 22 Jul (ROMPRES)—Several thousand students and citizens demonstrated in the Opera Square in Bucharest on Sunday, July 22, in the afternoon. The meeting, which was authorized, was sponsored by the main student associations and trade unions in Bucharest.

From an improvised rostrum, the leaders of the organizing associations made addresses asking for a clarification of the situation of the people who were arrested in connection with the events on June 13-15 and for the release of Marian Munteanu and Nica Leon. The demonstrators, clad in white shirts and carrying flowers in their hands, chanted various slogans in support of the arrested. There were no conflicts. The atmosphere was peaceful and the meeting proceeded in a civilized manner.

'March of Silence' Marks Revolution Anniversary

AU2207171290 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 0400 GMT 22 Jul 90

[Text] The 21 December Association organized a so-called march of silence in Bucharest yesterday to mark the seven months since the events of 21 December 1989. The march began at 1730 [1430 GMT] in University Square and continued along to Romana Square.

Wreaths were laid at roadside crucifixes, which have been erected in the two squares, and at the cross in front of Dalles Hall.

The march took place in an orderly and peaceful manner. After the conclusion of the march, some scores of people chanted anticommunist and anti-FSN [National Salvation Front] slogans in the University area.

Commission Hearings Begin on 13-15 Jun Events

AU2007200290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1745 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Bucharest, 20 Jul (ROMPRES)—Hearings started in the Inquiry Commission of the Romanian Parliament to establish the causes and conditions that fomented the events over June 13-15, 1990 in Romania.

The Parliamentary Commission urges leading newspaper to inform citizens willing to provide information on the events on the respective day that they can take part in the hearings it organizes. Furthermore, it urges the Ministry of Instruction and Science, the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Public Works, Transport and Physical Planning and other institutions that have data, information and statements at their disposal to send them as soon as possible.

Victims of Communist Regime Hold Conference

AU2207173190 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1504 GMT 22 Jul 90

[Text] Bucharest, 22 Jul (ROMPRES)—A zonal conference of mountainous Transylvania the counties of Brasov, Covasna and Harghita, as well as other counties in Transylvania, which were invited guests was held in Brasov. The meeting was called by "The Justice League," a non-political organization open to all people who were done injustice by the communist regime and who can prove the injustices they had to endure. As Mr. Gheorghe Daescu, vice-chairman of the league said, during the meeting collectivities of members were set up with a view to creating branches in the rest of the Transylvanian counties (so far, only one branch was set up in Brasov).

'Political Instability,' 'New Dictatorship'

AU2207143290 Bucharest DREPTATEA in Romanian 10 Jul 90 p 2

[Lucian Tudorancea article: "(Pla)tonic Dialogues"]

[Text] Undoubtedly, dialogue is the necessary symbol of any genuine democracy, it is the corollary of freedom of opinion and expression, of equality and sociopolitical tolerance, and it is a sign of the maturity of a given civilian society and of cooperation between the forces interested in its progress.

Six months after the December revolution, dialogue was chased from the country and replaced with the monologue of a neototalitarian power, given material shape in open incitement toward hatred, violence, denouncement, and intolerance. In other words, we are witnessing the resurrection of a new dictatorship from the ruins of the old one.

We have to state this openly: The postrevolutionary political instability of Romanian society has been due and continues to be due to the incapability of the National Salvation Front [FSN] to establish an honest and rational dialogue with the opposition.

Dialogue has been cynically postponed throughout this period up to the moment when proper conditions were created to suppress the opposition. The attempts (that failed intentionally) of those in power to conduct a dialogue with the contesting opposition smacked of trite mockery. The FSN tactics boiled down to a single tactic: To create the impression of accepting and even initiating dialogue, which was refused by the opposition forces alone. Through this "subtle" procedure the blame (be it only formal) falls on the opposition. This is typical of communist diversion!

We are aware of the reasons why the University Square representatives left the negotiations. We know (or we should know) the scope of the 13 to 15 June events. They prove the FSN's refusal to conduct dialogue and the dishonesty of its previous attempts to reach a "consensus" (to use a presidential expression) with the opposition. This was fast labelled as "Iron-guardist" and "fascist" without providing convincing explanations in this respect and without the necessary nuances. For it is very difficult to imagine the sudden resurrection of a movement whose elimination from the political scene of the country took place 50 years ago.

President Ion Iliescu and his coworkers intended to persuade us—by means of our free television—that the whole opposition belongs to the extreme right. Hence the need and legitimacy to eliminate it. Hence a free road for "genuine" democracy, that is a single party system—the golden dream of the FSN members.

This does nothing but contradict the programmatic affirmations of the FSN in the sense of promoting democracy and social dialogue and cooperating with the political forces of the society, irrespective of their concepts and stance.

It is demonstrated that dialogue cannot take place under conditions of terror, social insecurity, and of repression of anti-FSN and anti-nomenklatura newspapers. Censorship, no matter who is applying it, equals the reiteration of the past.

More than ever before we need genuine dialogue, free from preconceived ideas and paralyzing dogmas; we need honesty and consistency.

Reducing the opposition to nothingness would not even meet the interests of the moment, because only through its existence and specific action will we be able to ensure the political balance of our society, eliminate abuse of power, and eliminate the alienation and manipulation of the masses. The pseudo-dialogues conducted thus far have accentuated the crisis of Romanian society and its artificial and steered segregation, as well as intolerance. Thus, President Ion Iliescu pretended to conduct a dialogue and so did the government. The gap created between principled declarations and reality has taken disquieting forms.

By pretending to conduct a dialogue, we will also end up pretending that we are free and are living in a 20th century society.

We have to completely renounce the policy of cynically obstructing dialogue and, at the same time, we have to understand that dialogue is our only chance.

Roman Comments Upon Return From French Visit

AU1907212290 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1948 GMT 19 Jul 90

["Excerpts" of statements by Prime Minister Petre Roman to Romanian radio upon his return from France at Otopeni Airport on the evening of 19 July—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Roman] The talks with France's president were extremely interesting and important. During the talks, the joint wish was expressed that the development of Romanian-French relations have a favorable course and continue on a more fruitful, developed, and broader plane; we discussed the implementation of these relations in all areas, such as political, economic, cultural, and scientific areas. We held very interesting talks with Mr. Fabius about the need for Romanian-French parliamentary relations and held an extremely important and very long conversation with Mrs. Catherine Lalumiere, who, as our people probably know, is an important personality among the personalities called upon to tell their views on the relations between the European Community and Romania and on granting economic and financial assistance.

Then, at (?Aerospacial), it was important for me to stress and mark the need to make possible steps toward a cooperation between (?Aerospacial) and the Romanian Aeronautical industry.

I tried to become the messenger of the solid potential of the Romanian aeronautical industry. After the visit, (?Aerospacial) decided to send a substantive exploration mission in connection with a possible manufacturing of parts for the [word indistinct] and for manufacturing of a short distance plane, a courier, which would be very useful for us in order to replace our current fleet of AN-24. [passage omitted on unidentified announcer's remarks]

[Roman] During the last session of the foreign ministers of the EC, France consistently and decisively stressed the need for the EC to grant economic and financial assistance to Romania and we hope that, some aspects have been clarified in this respect.

[Announcer] The Romanian prime minister also referred to last night's television statements made by the president of the Senate, Mr. Alexandru Birladeanu.

[Roman] I think that there was a (?misunderstanding). First of all everybody should understand that it is impossible and it is incomprehensible that the system of the economic reform or even its draft should be legalized now, within a month. We did not plan to do this and it is not even good to do it. I would like to give you an example and I would like you to pay great attention to it. The same thing, the autonomous regime of the trade societies [words indistinct], which is currently being discussed, was adopted in France after debates and preparations that lasted 12 years. However, prior to this law, when it was being adopted, the commission in charge of its drafting, complained that it did not have sufficient time to (?finalize) it. I believe that it is really inadmissible to adopt this way of thinking that comes from outside the government and the parliament, that is, that we speed the endorsement of this draft. Pushed by public opinion, the parliamentarians, and particularly the senators, felt offended by the fact that there was this false image that the government asks the parliament to speed things. This is a mistaken idea. We have a number of other bills ready which must be passed now. [passage omitted on announcer's comments]

[Roman] I have mentioned a meeting with a great construction company [name indistinct] which is building roads, highways, and some buildings. We have some plans that are very close to being accomplished. For instance, the project that we talked over refers to the building of a commercial center by the "Buick" company, one of the biggest companies of the world, based on French designs. We are having discussions between Renault and Dacia, which are very close to finalization, for a complete refurbishing and redesigning of the assembly line. We are also holding encouraging discussions between engineers and the Galati Metallurgical Combine.

Bratianu Statement During Paris Visit Noted

AU2007141690 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0935 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Bucharest, 20 Jul (ROMPRES)—"A politicin is in duty bound to uphold the country's interests" ...states Mr. Ion I. Bratianu, president of the "Bratianu" Liberal Union, in an interview with the newspaper LIBERTATEA put out in Bucharest. Referring to his recent tour of France, Mr. Ion I. Bratianu specifies that it was both political and economic as he had contacts with French parliamentarians and industrialists. At a news conference he spoke about the "realistic targets proposed by Petre Roman's government that underscores the need for collaboration of all the political forces inside and outside the country for Romania's transition to a genuinely democratic society".

Referring to one of his travel's aims, that of disclosing the meaning of the June 13-15 events in Romania "tendentiously interpreted by some people to the detriment of Romania's prestige worldwide", Mr Ion I. Bratianu expressed his belief that the new parliamentary commission set up to this end would cast light on their causes as it was "inspired by the sense of truth".

Mr. Ion Bratianu, the interview shows, discussed in Bordeaux possibilities of building micro-waterpower stations in Romania. "I also contacted wine and spirits supplying companies that would like to cooperate with our country, and I also talked with industrialists about the possibility of importing fruit processing and canned fruit manufacturing lines."

"If any Romanian politician who travels abroad tried to contact people and institutions willing to economically support Romania he would prove much more patriotism than Doina Cornea and Laszlo Tokes, for instance, who prefer to denigrate their homeland advising others to assist Romania in no way", said Mr. I. Bratianu at the end of his interview.

Iliescu Receives Cuban Trade Minister Cabrisas

AU2007204190 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1750 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Bucharest, 20 Jul (ROMPRES)—On Friday [20 July], President Ion Iliescu of Romania received Ricardo Cabrisas, trade minister of Cuba.

The guest congratulated Mr. Ion Iliescu on his having been elected president of Romania and informed him of the economic and political situation of Cuba, of the Cuban people's efforts to honour international economic commitments.

During the talks, emphasis was placed on the need to continue, develop and diversify the Romanian-Cuban relations, in the economic and commercial areas in particular.

The talks were attended by Mr. Constantin Fota, minister of trade and tourism, and Mr. Ioan Mircea Pascu, adviser to Romania's president.

Iliescu, Roman, Martian, Birladeanu Hold Meeting

AU2007203490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1850 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Bucharest, 20 Jul (ROMPRES)—The weekly meeting of Romania's President Ion Iliescu with Mssessrs. Alexandru Birladeanu, president of the Senate, Dan Martian, speaker of the Assembly of Deputies, and Petre Roman, prime minister, took place at the Cotroceni Palace on Friday [20 July].

Reference was made to aspects regarding the legislative activity of this week's two-chamber parliament, especially to the debates on the bill for transforming the state-run enterprises into commercial units, the proposals the government intends to submit to the Senate and the Assembly of Deputies for debate next week.

Mr. Petre Roman also made reference to the results of his recent visit to France.

NLP's New 'Young Wing' Plans To Register 23 Jul

AU2007154390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1514 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Bucharest, 20 Jul (ROMPRES)—Having tried in all ways that can be taken in a coherent political movement to restructure and modernize the National Liberal Party from within, and in the face of a persistent autocratic refusal to establish a constructive dialogue, the initiative committee announces that the National Liberal Party's Young Wing will register Monday 23 July 1990 at 1000 [0700 GMT] at the Bucharest City Court, says a statement issued to ROMPRES Friday [20 July] by the Initiative Committee.

The aim of the wing is that, on the basis of a new draft statute and of a renewed economic, social and political platform that will be discussed from the grassroots up, from the local, county and regional professional level up to the national convention level, a broad democratic forum of Romanian liberalism be initiated for the coherent regrouping of a firm oppositon that can thus become a viable alternative to the reconstruction of modern Romania.

The Initiative Committee for the National Liberal Party Young Wing will give a press conference the same day at 6.00 p.m. [1500 GMT] at the Intercontinental Hotel's Press Centre.

U.S. Daily's View of European Unrest Criticized

AU2207173390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1456 GMT 22 Jul 90

["Agora: Who's To Benefit?"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, 22 Jul (ROMPRES)—In its Saturday issue, "AZI" the press organ of the ruling National Salvation Front, prints a map that was published in "THE WASHINGTON TIMES" on June 25 to illustrate an article on Eastern Europe in what it calls the first year, when ethnic conflicts gain ground, as it says.

"Looking at the map," the commentary in "AZI," which is headlined "Who's To Benefit?" reads, "we will note that the area covered by those conflicts, indicated by arrows in the map, virtually extends throughout the zone the title of the article refers to, with the exception of only one country. One can clearly note that roughly one half of Romania's territory is placed under the question mark, we should say." The article in "THE WASHINGTON TIMES" refers to "no less than 13 serious ethnic conflicts which broke out or are about to break out in the area" and the conclusion is "amazing, not to call it aberrant," as "AZI" shows, quoting the paper, which says that a possible consequence of those conflicts would be the rebuilding of the borders imposed...after the first world war, which, inter alia, implies Transylvania, Voivodina, Slovenia, Croatia, Montenegro, Kosovo, Macedonia.

"The assessment in the aforesaid paper whereby the said ethnic conflicts of which some are only presumed are a consequence of the passage to democracy and of the improvement of relations between superpowers, is at least questionable. Historians and politologists could easily demonstrate that the reality is rather different."

"The insistent identification of the territories annexed to the Hungarian component of the empire that had its capital in Vienna may lead to the proposal which is not at all exaggerated that is an attempt at setting forth claims that flagrantly run counter to provisions of the CSCE Final Act and which represent one of the causes if not the main cause of the ethnic conflicts on which the article in "THE WASHINGTON TIMES" dwells, as does the map accompanying it," the newspaper "AZI" points out.

The idea of the "unifying" role of the West-European community, "at the gate of which the country that is not indicated on the map has been knocking insistently of late, is not entirely new." However, it refers to that common Europe which almost all the states on the continent want.

Finally, "AZI" further writes, emphasis should be placed on a statement made by the Hungarian prime minister, who said that "the solution to the national question resides in European integration" and that action should be taken towards "dissolving frontiers." Referring to the minorities in Romania, the Hungarian head of government "does not forget to imperatively underline that the countries that do not observe human rights should not be given the possibility to adhere to the Council of Europe, an institution of which Hungary wishes to be a member. We have nothing against such an opinion," "AZI" shows, "but we wonder: How about the decision made by the authorities in Budapest not to allow the Romanian minority in Hungary to be represented to that country's State Assembly?"

UDMR To Coordinate Cultural Associations

LD2107215290 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2000 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Text] The Magyar Democratic Union of Romania [UDMR] held a national board meeting in Miercurea Ciuc.

The UDMR plans to set up a national coordinating center for the promotion of cultural life of national minorities. The proposal was raised at a two-day meeting in Csikszereda, which has just ended. The function of the center would be to coordinate the activities of the recently formed cultural associations.

The leadership of the organization representing the interests of the Magyars in Romania does not at present consider calling together an extraordinary conference, as recommended by Honorary President Laszlo Tokes. On this question they finally agreed that internal consultations must begin on the question of emigration, and on how Hungarian language education could be improved in Romania.

After the meeting, the UDMR General Secretary Geza Szoecs said that the Magyars living in Romania demonstrated a very high level of organizing ability—I am thinking of completely spontaneous organizations as well, and I think this will automatically determine the UDMR's direction also. There is no other way out for them then to create, based on a well-functioning, prosperous economy, a complex and effective cultural system, and establish a model which has so long been the aim of the Magyars in Romania.

* Romanian-Hungarian Disagreements Persist

90P20073A Bucharest ROMANIA LIBERA in Romanian 4 Jul 90 p 3

[Unattributed article: "In Romanian-Hungarian Relations Only Constructive Dialogue Can Eliminate Misunderstandings"]

[Text] By a note verbale the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs is informing the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Hungary, in regard to the events of 13-15 June 1990, that Romania agrees to observe in their entirety the pledges made in the Vienna final document on human rights.

At the same time, the Romanian side cannot agree to having a procedure conceived as an element for constructive dialogue, for the elimination of misunderstandings and unclear points used by the Hungarian side as a pretext for engaging in tendentious evaluations, which distorts the efforts which are being made and the difficulties which Romania meets on its irreversible road to democracy, in a language which is completely unsuitable for diplomatic documents and contrary to the spirit of the CSCE. In fact, before receiving the information which it seeks itself, the Hungarian side is permitting itself to formulate an "official opinion" and definitive evaluations in regard to the events and to make unfounded accusations. In the demarche, an arrogant tone is used to "attract the attention" of a state participating in the CSCE, a process in which states participate as equal partners and in which no one has received the right to be arbiter or judge. The purpose pursued by the Hungarian side—the note says—is revealed even more by the fact that, on the basis of the tragic events of 13-15 June, which took place in Bucharest and had no connection with problems of the national minorities, the demarche calls attention to events in Tirgu Mures in March of this year, at a moment in which calm had been restored in this part of the country, through the efforts of all and both Romanians and Hungarians want to live in an atmosphere of good understanding. The events are presented as if they would like to revive feelings of distrust and suspicion resulting from the pretensions of a country to set itself up as a protector of minorities living in other states.

The Romanian side—it says in the note—is more interested than anyone else in restoring calm and peaceful coexistence in the population in the zones in which Romanians, Hungarians, and other minorities have been living for ages. The statements of the Hungarian side characterizing these events as "anti-Hungarian manifestations of a pogrom type" are in total contradiction with the facts.

In its note verbale of 26 June 1990—the Bucharest note states—the Hungarian side requests that the report compiled after the events in Tirgu Mures be made public. The report has been given to the newly elected Parliament where it will be examined. The basic rules of decency, not to mention the need to observe legal procedures, demand that this report should be made public after it has been presented to the body which requested it and not before.

In connection with the persons whose names are mentioned in the note verbale, the Hungarian side, which frequently refers to the norms of the law, knows that while a person is the object of judicial proceedings no information can be given dealing with the content of the trial.

We regret, once again—the Romanian note says—that while the Romanian side is making efforts and is determined to continue to do so, to achieve rapprochement, understanding and the solution of existing problems in this spirit, the Hungarian side is continuing to demonstrate lack of a desire to act in this spirit, stressing confrontation rather than dialogue, as would be normal between civilized states.

The Romanian side expresses its hope that, by observing the provisions of the CSCE documents and applying them with good faith, it will be possible to improve relations among states on the continent.

Slovene Assembly's Stance on Military Service

AU2007163590 Ljubljana Domestic Service in Slovene 1330 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] The Slovene Assembly's information service has conveyed to us the stances adopted by the republican Assembly regarding the sending of draftees to serve their military service outside the borders of the Republic of Slovenia. The stances say that the present constitutional system and the Law on Military Service that is now in force do not explicitly demand that peacetime units be manned on an extraterritorial principle. Federal institutions have not furnished any satisfactory answers to the numerous requests by Slovenia that a territorial principle of military service should be implemented.

The Slovene Assembly, therefore, requests the SFRY Presidency to ensure, through the Federal Secretariat for National Defense, a new allocation for the September batch of draftees from Slovenia. They must serve their military service in the Fifth Military District, and at least half of them on the territory of the Republic of Slovenia.

By the end of the year, at least 95 percent of draftees from Slovenia should remain in our republic. By that time, a reserve officers school, abolished some years ago, should be reopened in Ljubljana.

If the Federal Secretariat for National Defense fails to shape a new allocation for the September batch and to announce this by 30 July, the Republic of Slovenia will not send its draftees to serve their military service. If these demands are not taken into account for the next call-up, Slovenia will organize and carry out military training of the draftees by itself, under the conditions determined by the republican law on military service. In this case, Slovenia will also cease to pay a proportional share of the funds to the federal budget, the stances adopted by the Slovene Assembly yesterday say.

Presidency on Territorial Defense

AU2207160490 Ljubljana DELO in Slovene 18 Jul 90 p 2

[Jana Taskar report: "Defense According to the Measure of Slovenia"]

[Excerpt] Ljubljana, 17 Jul—The Presidency of the Republic of Slovenia decided today that the doctrine of the territorial defense of the SFRY Armed Forces, which the General Staff issued for temporary use in April, should no longer apply in Slovenia because it is contrary to the constitutional and legal provisions presently in force. The doctrine was adopted without the cooperation of the republics, and it turns the republican Territorial Defense units into a reserve army.

The Presidency of Slovenia also decided today that Colonel General Ivan Hocevar, commander of the republican Territorial Defense units, should hand over his duties to his deputy. Whether this decision—which is not intended to injure his personal and professional integrity—will be accepted is not certain at present because some people say that in this post only a dismissal or a replacement in case of death are possible. One should hardly doubt that the assembly will endorse the Presidency's proposal, and adopt a constitutional basis to bring the appointments and dismissals of the Territorial Defense commander within the powers of the republic rather than the federation.

At the Presidency session, which was also attended by France Bucar, Lojze Peterle, Janez Jansa, and Dimitrij Rupel, one could hear many thoughts on the normalization of the Slovene Territorial Defense situation, or rather on the conflict between Slovenia and the federation. This conflict was said to have been unnecessary as far as the Slovene side was concerned, but it was obviously inevitable. There are more and more indications that the order to transfer Territorial Defense weapons to the Yugoslav People's Army units for better safekeeping (there had been no complaints for 12 years) also has a political background.

Because the SFRY Presidency had not accepted the Slovene Presidency's proposal to relieve Slovenia's Territorial Defense commander, Ciril Zlobec proposed that the communes should stop paying the Territorial Defense contributions, that all the military maneuvers in Slovenia should be canceled, and that all the organs should be absolved of their links with the present commander. People's Defense Secretary Janez Jansa offered arguments to reject this proposal and at the same time said that the problem of the commander should be resolved as soon as possible.

The Slovene parliament will receive a report on the transfer and guarding of Slovenia's Territorial Defense weapons along with a draft resolution which says that the Territorial Defense weapons should be returned as soon as possible to suitable and guarded Territorial Defense stores, that the mobilization and combat readiness should be checked, that the moral political situation in Territorial Defense staffs and units should be evaluated, that conditions for normal Territorial Defense activities should be created through cadre changes, that and the sovereignty of Slovenia should be strengthened by legislation in this field.

The republican Assembly should face all the problems and consequences that have arisen or will arise because of the suspension of felling trees in government-owned forests. [passage omitted]

Slovene Presidency Member Speaks of Disagreement

AU2107180190 Ljubljana Domestic Service in Slovene 1330 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Text] This morning, 1,400 workers from the glass works collective at Hrastnik celebrated the 150th anniversary of their plant, the day of glass workers, and Uprising Day. The numerous guests included Matjaz Kmecl, member of the Presidency of the Republic of Slovenia, and Lojze Peterle, president of the Executive Council.

Mojca Ocvirk reports that Matjaz Kmecl and Lojze Peterle congratulated the glass workers on their jubilee, and Kmecl in his festive speech also spoke about the present political situation in Slovenia.

[Begin Kmecl recording] In the past two-and-a-half months, the Slovene public as heard some less-than-sensible statements. The crowning achievement was certainly the sensational report that the newly elected republican Presidency was preparing a coup during the first session of the new Assembly.

Anyone with half a brain will quickly realize that this was a political fairy tale, following the yellow press pattern. Unfortunately the yellow press has also gone to town in the meanwhile with all the stupid jokes and moral turpitude to boot.

Why, I ask, should Kucan—not to speak of Oman, Plut, myself, and Zlobec [all members of the Slovene Presidency]—wait for such a coup until after the elections, when Kucan had been in power before, and he had only helped everybody, himself included, descend from power? Would he have done this only to dissolve the assembly immediately afterwards and to play a pint-sized dictator? Come off it.

There is something else behind it. It is becoming more and more clear that the present Presidency, including sensible and reasonable Plut and Oman and the other three of us who belong to the wrong parties, is not liked and does not suit some new reformers. Therefore, it must be pulled apart and pushed into a corner by hook or by crook, with all the means and in all the ways.

Therefore, this Presidency was, for instance, the last to learn from the press about the sovereignty declaration. It was foiled in its efforts concerning the constitutional judges. It was faced with an ultimatum requiring it to depose Slovene diplomats appointed a long time ago according to all rules.

On the other side the Army started playing up. Pursuing an unacceptable doctrine which was never politically evaluated, it grabbed the arms and the defense (?essence) of the Slovene Territorial Defense, and placed the Territorial Defense commander in an impossible position when it forbade him to inform the Presidency, which according to the Constitution is the legitimate commander and the supreme commander of the Slovene defense.

However, this Presidency was elected by names and surnames according to the will of the Slovene people, and not through supplementary lists or party vote multipliers [referring to the complex proportional system in Assembly elections]. Probably it was elected in the most clearly democratic form at the last elections.

All this indicates something. It indicates that the last elections may indeed have ended the civil war, as we were told, but quite certainly they did not end the national liberation struggle. This is not a struggle with external enemies or so-called Belgrade, although we have difficulties all the time. We have not ended this liberation struggle within ourselves. There is this passion that everything that we are and that belongs to us must be scattered and destroyed.

On the outside this may sometimes be seen as a kind of reformism, but in fact it is fundamentalist, revolutionary, and hysterical reformism at any price. [end recording]

Kmecl further said that changes were necessary in our country approximately in the way and to the extent that the people decided and measured out in the elections in our Slovene state. Those who won the trust for these changes must know that they did not win it unconditionally and that one will not be able to excuse oneself for ever invoking the catastrophic inheritance, or various declarations and the like. Kmecl continued:

[Begin Kmecl recording] Let us support the government as long as it acts sensibly and does not meet at joint sessions with some central committee like in the old days, but this time the central committee is no longer communist, of course. Let us tighten the belts if this is necessary for true sovereignty. Let us recommend more sense or less enthusiasm to the deputies. Let us tell them at present, for instance, that they should nevertheless send delegates to the Federal Chamber, because we simply still live in Yugoslavia. Who else will represent our interests in the Federal Chamber if not ourselves and our delegates?

At the same time let us build the reality of our state in a systematic, self-assured, sensible, and honest way, and not hypocritically, and let us not just talk about all those innumerable but specific matters that are known on a small scale to any housewife who cherishes satisfaction and happiness in her home. [end recording]

Drnovsek Wants Serious Discussions With Slovenia

AU2307084890 Ljubljana DELO in Slovene 14 Jul 90 pp 1,2

[Jana Taskar report: "Mere Trips Abroad Will Not Solve Difficulties"]

[Text] Ljubljana, 13 Jul—Slovenia should turn from trips and celebrations to serious discussions on how to resolve the Yugoslav problem: these words by Janez Drnovsek, member of the SFRY Presidency, sounded like an appeal to the Slovene leadership, when he met editors and reporters of some Slovene media today to discuss the current situation in the country.

Judging by what was said, the situation is extremely tense, so that Slovenia will not be helped by the talks abroad unless talks are also held at home, in Yugoslavia, where a denouement must occur as soon as possible. The state Presidency, which reflects Yugoslavia at this moment, obviously concentrates its work precisely on a

denouement, otherwise it would not be drafting a secession law. If we take into account the fact that only Slovenia and Croatia are supporting a confederation, and the others are still in favor of a federation (those in the know say that Serbia wonders why it should join in a confederation with Montenegro and Bosnia-Hercegovina, even if a confederation were perhaps possible with Slovenia) one cannot expect that agreement will be reached on this law, and therefore the bill will almost certainly be offered for discussion in several versions. The logical conclusion can only be that people will also have to decide on the new shape of Yugoslavia in a referendum, and if the choice is a federation, a confederation, or secession, it is possible to predict the outcome in advance. The position of the Serbian leadership is clear, they are not prepared to discuss a confederation, and the Slovene leadership is prepared to discuss only a confederation. Otherwise, the position will be implemented as envisaged by the sovereignty declaration, which is to say, an independent, seceded Slovenia.

The new agreement in Yugoslavia would be still possible, Janez Drnovsek said, if there were no Kosovo, or rather no problem of relations between Serbia and Kosovo, because an agreement is only possible when nobody is disadvantaged. At the moment this cannot be expected, because all the attempts to remedy the situation have failed. Let us remember all the moves by Janez Drnovsek when he was president of the SFRY Presidency, trying to bring the two sides to talk to each other, but as he himself admits now, his efforts have not removed the lack of readiness on both sides. It is not to be neglected, and it is also not denied, that Serbia is aware of its predominance and that it acts in that way, or tries to prevent the hegemony of the Albanians with laws that allowed it such moves as the dissolution of the Kosovo Assembly and of the Executive Council, control over Albanian information media, and so forth. Or to put it in another way, Serbia poses the question of Kosovo as one of the key questions of its sovereignty.

Of course Slovenia cannot resolve the problem of Kosovo, but with its behavior, it could contribute to preventing the Yugoslav powder barrel from blowing up. Janez Drnovsek wondered today whether it made any sense to adopt the [sovereignty] declaration or not, considering that Slovene sovereignty is not disputable. The Assembly of Slovenia decided to adopt it; nobody asked in the Assembly whether perhaps we were past the stage when sovereignty has to be confirmed in such a way, and nobody asked to what extent such a declaration could block negotiations in Yugoslavia which, whether Slovenia likes it or not, cannot be avoided.

And another critical thought by Drnovsek. He said that except for stating that it is in favor of a confederation, Slovenia has not yet offered or proposed anything specific to realize its vision.

Rather the contrary, we may say, because the decision that the delegates of Slovenia should no longer attend Federal Chamber sessions has barred the way to negotiations and alternative solutions.

If we look at the events in the Slovene Assembly through more Yugoslav eyes—because we still live in Yugoslavia, which the world also does not wish to see divided—there are many things that pour oil on fire. The rejection of the discussion on constitutional amendments, which will formally introduce democracy and eliminate outdated provisions such as the leading role of the League of Communists, is not productive. In this way we actually allow the use of these constitutional provisions when they suit somebody. And finally we allow the SFRY Presidency to act as it does (by majority decision, rather than unanimously) and to plead that it must respect the Constitution.

Slovene Party Condemns Authorities' Attitude

LD2007160490 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1332 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Ljubljana, 20 Jul (TANJUG)—The leadership of the party for the Equality of Citizens informed newsmen in Ljubljana, Republic of Slovenia, on Friday [20 July] with, as they set out, "unacceptable and ingnominious attitude of the authorities and political circles in Slovenia toward this party, whose membership consists primarily of members of other nations and national minorities." [sentence as received]

"More and more we feel that someone is spraying us with powder of destruction, that we are unwanted and second-rate citizens in this milieu, while the media exhibit surprising perseverance in ignoring us," said this party's president Dragisa Marojevic. He strongly criticized also the Slovene parliament for failing after nearly two months to reply to an open letter sent to the MPs by the Party for Equality of Citizens.

The letter, among other things, demands an explanation about the rights and status of those living in Slovenia but are not of Slovene nationality.

There are between 50,000 to 100,000 workers from other parts of Yugoslavia living in Slovenia, not counting members of their families.

'Democratic Reform' Party Elects Mandator

LD2007203790 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1822 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Excerpt] Ljubljana, 20 Jul (TANJUG)—At its session today the Central Committee of the Slovene League of Communists - Party of Democratic Reform elected Emil Milan Pintar mandator of its "shadow government." Pintar envisages this government as an opposition one rather than a party one. Pinter will publicly present its program guidelines by the end of August as he hopes that he will engage up to 15 experts in his government in charge of certain economic sphere, social services, state functions, and the like. [passage omitted]

Slovene Communists Discuss Congress Preparations

AU2007210290 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2000 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Relja Atanasijevic report at "this afternoon's" Central Committee of the League of Communists of Slovenia-Party of Democratic Reform meeting on preparations for their fall congress; place not given—live or recorded]

[Text] The new program is one of the main documents of the Party of Democratic Reform. The draft has been prepared in a shorter and longer, global, version. Both stress that the party is a left-oriented party according to the criteria of West Europe and is committed to democratic socialism, a democratic state, and a civil society which increases prosperity and human freedoms.

At the same time, the party thinks it its duty to fight against the new rightism and the creation of social cliques which can threaten democracy. The sovereignty of the Slovene people and the development of its statehood are the primary political aims, the program orientations stress. In this respect, it is added that the development of Slovene statehood with its own defense system and international relations does not mean Slovenia's necessary separation from Yugoslavia but presupposes a confederal structure for the Yugoslav community and peoples.

An early draft of the statute of the Party of Democratic Reform of Slovenia is organized in ten sections. The highest party organ is the republican Conference, which has a Presidium and Supervisory Committee with a four-year term of office. As regards the party's organization, apart from the local organizations, the creation of factions, forums, and other interest groups is also envisaged.

It is envisioned that the party of Slovene reformers will also change its present name at the fall congress. Three possible names are on the table: the old one of the League of Communists of Slovenia, the new one of the Party of Democratic Reform, but the third one, the Party of the Democratic Left will most probably be accepted.

Today's session of the Central Committee also elected the man who would be responsible for setting up a shadow cabinet, Emil Milan Pintar.

Pristina Radio Fires Striking Albanian Workers

LD2007191690 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1829 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Pristina, 20 Jul (TANJUG)—Pristina radio-television today decided to dismiss 145 workers. This makes a total of 194 radio-television employees dismissed since the assembly of the Yugoslav Republic of Serbia introduced provisional measures [words indistinct] and some other firms in its autonomous province of Kosovo on July 5 this year.

The explanation to the decision said that "legal conditions had been met to dismiss these employees on several accounts." The dismissed employees are ethnic Albanians who did not come to work in protest against the provisional measures and the suspension of the Kosovo Provincial Assembly and government.

The assembly of the Yugoslav Republic of Serbia, which includes Kosovo Province, introduced special measures in the province after a street rally tried to proclaim the autonomous province a republic.

Pristina radio-television also decided to end cooperation with all contributors and collaborators and to cut short training periods of all young employees who did not report for work.

Kosovo Press on 'Broken' Equal Rights 'Pledge'

AU2107152390 Pristina RILINDJA in Albanian 11 Jul 90 p 5

[M. Krasniqi commentary: "Democracy, Pluralism, and Man"]

[Text] At last everything is clear. Even the foremost officeholder in the Kosovo leadership, Isen Kajdomcaj, and Presidency members Mehdi Gjakova and Musa Juniku have submitted their resignations, expressing dissent from the policy being waged against Kosovo and its people and the practical suspension of Kosovo's autonomy. Almost all those who have been offered posts have refused them, because of the measures imposed by force in some collectives. The Albanian population of Kosovo, as a whole, responded to the Alternative's call for one-hour strikes as a sign of protest against the dissolution of the institutions that constituted Kosovo's autonomy.

Not very long ago, we used to learn and indeed act on the principle that power, leadership, and every initiative must come from the base. This was the principle of self-management. Officials in Serbia used to say that the attitudes, views, and demands of the people must be respected. There is no dispute about this. The Albanian people too, following the reforming trends in Yugoslav society, began to vocally express demands, as legitimate and necessary as those of any other people, for a quiet life with full national equality.

At this point the pledge given many times by the country's highest leaders was broken, the pledge that all nationalities in Yugoslavia, under the conditions of democracy and pluralism, would enjoy the rights belonging to them and which are the pillars of a society of equals. However, the demands of the Albanian people were not only not taken into consideration, but were called nationalist, separatist, and who knows what else. It was in fact virtually forgotten that the Albanians are a population native to this area, and that they too want to live together with others as equals, and to be understood by these others, especially the organs of the state. Now another principle has been forgotten, which should count for even more under the conditions of democracy and pluralism, that people should be creators of their own

lives, and that life should spring and be created from the base, filtering up to the highest officeholders.

Dragan Nikolic, member of the Executive Council of the Serbian Assembly, when asked by a journalist from the British newspaper THE DAILY TELEGRAPH who now represents the Albanians after the suspension of the Kosovo Assembly, replied that the Albanian people are represented by delegates in the communal assemblies, which are in operation, and by Kosovo's representatives in the federation and the Serbian Assembly. However, another question arises. The Albanians of Kosovo, including their delegates in the SFRY Assembly, have not agreed to the suspension of the Kosovo provincial authorities. The Albanian members of the provincial government have also expressed their disagreement. One must logically ask how Kosovo can be led without the Albanians, who make up the majority in this territory?

The Albanians are asking for pluralist democracy with a multiparty system and free elections. The Kosovars have declared themselves in favor of an equal life with all the other peoples in Kosovo, Serbia, and Yugoslavia.

The Albanians in Kosovo offer dialogue, well-argued dialogue, as the only way to overcome all the problems and misunderstandings. The state, on the other hand, permits even violence.

This is a serious reflection on the state.

RILINDJA Views Limits on Kosovo Press

AU2207163590 Pristina RILINDJA in Albanian 12 Jul 90 p 10

[Agim Muhaxheri report: "Press Freedom Cannot Be Buried"]

[Text] Immediately after the Serbian Assembly's decision to suspend the Kosovo Assembly and its executive organs, there followed an expected decision by the Pristina District Public Prosecutor for a temporary ban, followed by the same prosecutor's proposal to ban two issues of RILINDJA, on 6 and 9 July, and the most recent issues of ZERI I RINISE (of 6 July) and SHKENDIJA (of 9 July).

Groundless Accusations

RILINDJA, ZERI I RINISE, and SHKENDIJA stood in the dock yesterday over this matter (which should not be a "matter"). Pristina District Court held four sessions on the "case," two of which were especially for RILINDJA, one for each issue. The lawyers Bajram Kelmendi, Fazli Balaj, Jusuf Hakaj, and Destan Rukic defended the Kosovo press before the court. The "charges" were presented by Haki Lecaj, the district prosecutor, at the first session of "the RILINDJA case," and at the others by his deputy, Jovica Jovanovic. The three judge bench was led by Dragoljub Zdravkovic, who was assisted by Adem Feratovic and Novica Simic.

There was a lengthy discussion of the disputed articles, "Act of State Violence (published on the paper's first page on 6 July), and those in the paper of 9 July, "We Do Not Recognize Any Team of Imposed Leaders," "Three Views of an Occupation," "The Destabilization of Democratic Efforts in Kosovo," and a letter published on the readers' letters page by the neurologist Dr. Isa Haxhiu, "A Test of Medieval Scholasticism," about the phenomenon of the poisoning of Albanians in Kosovo.

The gist of yesterday's court session was as follows: The district public prosecutor Haki Lecaj and his deputy Jovica Jovanovic, after stating that the disputed articles "had aroused concern among the masses" and that they were "alarming," supported the proposal to ban the relevant issues of RILINDJA and the two above-mentioned magazines. The defense lawyers were united in their view. Bajram Kelmendi and Fazli Balaj, speaking in the name of their colleagues, pointed out that such a step on the part of Pristina District public prosecutor represented a special kind of absurdity and an anachronism which, it goes without saying, falls short not only of the positive standards of our judicial system, but of international conventions regulating the question of information, which the SFRY Assembly has also ratified. The defense lawyers also suggested that the court should reject the public prosecutor's proposals, and should not, as they put it, fall under the influence of the politics of the day.

As for the controversial articles in the special number of ZERI I RINISE, the editors Bardh Hamzaj and Muharrem Ramabaja pointed out that the articles "Res Publica" and "Kosovo Demands Equal Political Status in Yugoslavia," contain nothing which, as the magazine was accused, sows hatred, or anything "alarming." The data published in ZERI I RINISE are familiar to everyone, and have also been published in magazines outside Kosovo. These editors expressed surprise at the decision for a temporary ban, whereby the prosecution then proposed a ban on the special issue of ZERI I RINISE.

Hamdi Podvorica, secretary of the RILINDJA Editorial Board, after pointing out that the newspaper had followed not only the constitutional provisions but also the law on correct, objective, and punctual reporting, as a daily newspaper should, added that the prosecutor's proposal was groundless and highly absurd. He said that the court should reject the public prosecutor's proposal.

On the SHKENDIJA case, Rexhep Zogaj said that there is no shortcoming in the controversial issue which could violate the law. Jonuz Fetahu, the magazine's chief editor, also asserted this.

Mete Alimehaj added that the internal affairs organs had confiscated 6,000 copies of SHKENDIJA, and that each copy cost five dinars.

Violation of the Kosovo Press' Freedom

The defense counsel, Fazli Balaj, said that everything that was happening to the Kosovo media is not only

totally absurd, but also a violation of the freedom of the Kosovo Albanian-language press. This lawyer then mentioned that, for instance, in the most recent issue of the Zagreb magazine DANAS of 10 July, in connection with a rally organized by an opposition party, we can read slogans which truly sow hatred against the Albanians. These slogans, he said, insult Slobodan Milosevic, Dr. Franjo Tudjman, Josip Broz Tito, and who knows who else. In the same magazine, we read "Siptari—Napolje" [Serbo-Croatian for "Albanians out"] and who knows what else. One nevertheless realizes, he said, that the journalist is objectively reporting a certain event, and writing about what he heard in conformity with the journalistic code.

The defense lawyer Bajram Kelmendi said that in journalists' parlance it is not news when a dog bites a man, but is when a man bites a dog. We have never carried such things in RILINDJA, ZERI I RINISE, or SHKENDIJA.

The presiding judge Dragoljub Zdravkovic said that the verdict on the case will be delivered today at 1300.

Kosovo Opposition Appeals to European Parliament

AU2107180790 Pristina RILINDJA in Albanian 16 Jul 90 p 3

["Text" of "document" entitled: "Kosovar Opposition Writes to the President of the European Parliament"]

[Text] To Mr. Baron Krespo [name as published], president of the European Parliament.

Mr. President,
Because the Serbian regime, supported by the state and political institutions of Yugoslavia, completely divested Kosovo of its autonomy with the amendments approved under a state of emergency on 23 March, 1989,

Because the Serbian regime has continued to carry out amendments approved under duress and has suspended all the laws approved by the Kosovo Assembly,

Because 39 Albanians have been killed and several hundred wounded as a result of the procedure of approving these amendments by force,

Because Serbian terror struck the Albanian people again in February and March 1990, and official sources state that 34 Albanians were killed and 204 others were seriously wounded,

Because the Serbian Assembly on 26 June 1990 approved a special law on intervening under special circumstances in Kosovo, which is in total opposition to the Constitution of Yugoslavia,

Because the Serbian Assembly on 5 July, 1990, completely suspended the organs of the state in Kosovo, closed Albanian-language media institutions, prohibited all liberty of expression and free thought, banned the activity of democratic political organizations and movements, and put the whole of Kosovo under military rule,

Because the repressive Serbian regime and its police are continuing to use new kinds of violence and torture against the Albanians, such as forcing people to swallow rings, penknives, and other objects they carry on their persons, and are violating the personal and family safety of Albanians throughout Kosovo,

Because the Albanians, as a majority population of 90 percent in Kosovo, are now deprived of all human and political rights, are under Serbian occupation, and are emigrating in ever-increasing numbers, especially to West Europe and the United States,

Because the Serbian regime has intentionally destroyed the Kosovo economy and has drastically restricted activity in the field of education and culture,

We turn to the European Parliament and express the hope that:

It will seek ways and use means to urgently stop this violence, which is against the democratic and humanitarian principles of today's Europe;

It will use the European Community's authority to ensure respect for the political will of the 2.5 million Albanians in Yugoslavia;

It will seek the enforcement of the Constitutional Declaration of 2 July, 1990, on an independent Kosovo, equal to other republics in the Yugoslav federation or confederation;

It will seek to make possible the organization of a referendum to express the political will of the population of Kosovo under the supervision of the European Community and a commission of the United Nations.

Accept, Mr. President, our sincere greetings.
The delegation of the democratic Albanian opposition in Kosovo: Dr. Ibrahim Rugova, chairman of the Kosovo Democratic Alliance; Dr. Rexhep Qosja, academician and independent intellectual; Dr. Hivzi Islami, chairman of the Kosovo Peasants Party; Dr. Ali Aliu and Dr. Bujar Bukoshi, members of the Presidium of the Kosovo Democratic Alliance. Strasbourg, 11 July, 1990.

Kosovars Show 'Maturity' By Continuing Work

AU2107192190 Pristina RILINDJA in Albanian 17 Jul 90 p 1

[B. Jashari commentary: "Testimony to Maturity"]

[Text] Kosovo Cassandras for many days in a row predicted, with provocative intentions, that a general strike was to have occurred yesterday.

The people and the workers are now accustomed to such serious tests and provocative predictions from the scriptwriters of the Kosovo tragedy, and did not fall into this new trap of disinformation and provocation laid by the public media, who often warned of "strike chaos" this week! There was no general strike yesterday. So, with the exception of the collectives placed under the Serbian

Assembly's most recent measures and the earlier measures of force, Kosovo was quiet yesterday and work proceeded normally.

This is yet more proof of maturity and wisdom, and a further sign that the people know to whom they should listen. Above all, they listen to their own voice, that of reason and democratic awareness.

Even this is an expression of discontent and opposition to the serious situation, the special circumstances, and the imposition of anticonstitutional decisions; this too expresses determined support for the democratic option of solving the problem of Kosovo according to the standards of humanity and human rights and freedoms, and through the people's free and inalienable will.

It goes without saying that the current restriction of the scope of democratic activity, and in this context the curtailment of the free and realistic flow of information which took place with the suspension of some of the most vital Albanian-language media institutions in Kosovo, has plunged our citizens into an even more difficult situation, because they are continually threatened with the danger of disinformation, such as that concerning the organization of a general strike.

However, yesterday's day of work and peace in Kosovo showed once again the people's maturity, wisdom, and determination for a peaceful and democratic path.

Kosovo's Morina Condemns 'Albanian Extremists'

LD2107194490 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1738 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Text] Pristina, 21 Jul (TANJUG)—President of the provincial Committee of the League of Communists of Kosovo Cahman Morina condemned on Saturday [21 July] ethnic Albanian extremists and separatists in this turbulent province for reactivating ethnic conflicts under the devil of democracy, and said they were being used for the separatist aims of the republic of Slovenia, whose aim, he said, was to destroy the republic of Serbia and Yugoslavia.

Speaking at a press conference, Morina called the act of three ethnic Albanian communists—Ramadan Murtaj, Agim Malja and Ilijaz Ramajli, who withdrew from their posts in the presidency and party provincial committee, a disgraceful abandoning of the party at its most difficult hour.

KDA Urges Serbia to Repeal Kosovo Measures

LD2007192690 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1753 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Pristina, 20 Jul (TANJUG)—President of the Kosovo Democratic Alliance (KDA) Ibrahim Rugova on Friday [20 July] said that his party would continue efforts towards a peaceful settlement of the Kosovo problem. Describing the "peaceful settlement" at a press conference in Pristina, Rugova set out some ten demands, including that "Serbia as soon as possible repeal its law suspending the Kosovo parliament and government, withdraw the police, and vacate the premises of Pristina radio-television and the Kosovo writers' Union."

Rugova asked that Yugoslav prime minister Ante Markovic take all measures and uphold the Kosovo government. On the other hand, he suspected "a game being played by the Federal and Serbian governments" and said that the Federal government "has no legitimacy after the suspension of the Kosovo parliament and government".

The KDA "also rejects an agreement reached in the Yugoslav Presidency on a new federal constitution," Rugova said. He pointed out that "it would not be good if other members of the Federation thought that they could agree without the (ethnic) Albanians."

The Kosovo Democratic Alliance holds that "it is fully entitled to demand the enactment of a Kosovo electoral law," said Rugova. It will not boycott the elections in Serbia but it is useless to talk about it after the adoption on Serbia's constitution which, he claimed will "prevent all changes in Kosovo."

Suvar Discusses 'Differences' in SFRY Presidency

AU2307084490 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 14-15 Jul 90 p 11

[Slavko Curuvija report on interview with Dr. Stipe Suvar, vice president of the SFRY Presidency; place and date not given: "I Was Not on the Majority's Side"]

[Text] Belgrade—[Curuvija] If newspapers are to be trusted, in a relatively short period of time the SFRY Presidency is for the third time endorsing in its statements the views on the stands that had been adopted by a "majority vote." The first time this was done in connection with the initiative to reexamine the decision concerning the appointment of Stefan Korosec as an ambassador, the second time in connection with granting pardons to political prisoners, and the third time, in the last few days, in connection with the latest events in Kosovo.

Yesterday and the day before yesterday, BORBA tried to obtain more information about the nature of differences in the SFRY Presidency and about individual stands of its members. The result is not complete: President Borisav Jovic is impossible to reach; Janez Drnovsek sent a message from Ljubljana that he does not want to talk about this to newspapers; Bogic Bogicevic was on a "trip"; Vasil Tupurkovski was somewhere between Ohrid and Skopje; Dragan Zelenovic was "visiting some work organizations" in Novi Sad; Nenad Bucin was in Montenegro; and Riza Sapundziju was of the opinion that the differences in the views of the SFRY Presidency members are an internal matter of the members of this organ and that one should not talk to the public about them.

After two days of persuasion, only Dr. Stipe Suvar, vice president of the SFRY Presidency, agreed to talk. He openly indicated the stand he took during the SFRY Presidency's session held this week, and why. Of course, what Dr. Stipe Suvar said provoked additional questions, which he also answered.

[Suvar] I would not want to speak about the session, nor about the stands of other members of the SFRY Presidency, nor about the way they voted, but would like to say, since you insist, that I was not on the majority's side when we were adopting stands concerning the situation in Kosovo. Not calling into question the content of the statement issued for the public, I was in favor of the SFRY Presidency asking the Serbian Assembly to withdraw the law on the suspension of the Kosovo Assembly and Executive Council. This would, of course, also imply the withdrawal and suspension of the decisions and measures based on that law, because, this republic, not the federation, is in fact now again introducing an emergency state and hindering if not permanently preventing democratic developments in Kosovo where national homogenization and confrontations have unfortunately reached the point where even the worst possible outcome cannot be excluded. There can be no way out without democratic solutions which would protect all the people and enable everybody to say what they think without endangering the real autonomy of Kosovo in Serbia and Yugoslavia, which, after all, originates from the people's liberation war.

I was, therefore, of the opinion that repealing this law and the measures based on it—along with the rejection of separatists demands and resolve to defend the territorial integrity of Serbia and Yugoslavia—would help in searching for and finding a democratic way out of more than the grave and complex situation in Kosovo, the situation that is burdening the entire country, hampering and threatening reform processes, causing and widening divisions, and inciting various disintegrational tendencies in the country. At the same time the crisis in Kosovo is the main reason and motive for Europe and the world criticizing Yugoslavia. This is not only eroding our country's international reputation, but is also hindering our efforts to integrate into Europe and receive the optimal support for our reforms."

Like some other members of the Presidency, I also proposed that the Constitutional Court of Yugoslavia be asked for its opinion on whether the above mentioned law that was adopted by the Serbian Assembly is in accordance with the SFRY Constitution.

I considered both things important not only for the integrity of the Presidency's decisions and stands, but also for the most important task that is facing the Presidency, the task which it has taken on itself before the SFRY Assembly and the Yugoslav public: to do everything in its power in the forthcoming political talks on the future organization of the Yugoslav community and at the same time extend support to the current economic reforms and insist on the introduction of multiparty elections everywhere in the country, in all republics and provinces, and as soon as possible. We are supposed to be going to Kosovo, just as we went to visit all other republics and Vojvodina. Who are we going to talk with there when, because of the resignations that have been submitted, even the Presidency of the Socialist Autonomous Province of Kosovo is unable to work legally?

Kosovo is not a province that belongs only to Albanians, Serbs, and Montenegrins, but to all those who live in it, and, therefore, their truly civilized cohabitation and the peace and stability of the province cannot be achieved through majoritarianism, dictatorship, or repression. I am convinced that a great majority of Albanians are in favor of living together in real equality in Serbia and Yugoslavia. Allow me also to say that the SFRY Presidency was not and is not being consulted or informed about the measures which the state organs of the Socialist Republic of Serbia took against the state organs of the Socialist Autonomous Province of Kosovo. If this only amounted to the application of the constitution of the Socialist Republic of Serbia, as well as that of the Socialist Autonomous Province of Kosovo, then there would be no need for the federal organs to interfere or to be approached. However, this also involves the annulment of Kosovo's status in the federation which is explicitly recognized and regulated by the SFRY Constitution.

I think that it is the duty of the SFRY Presidency, within its constitutionally determined powers, to protect the sovereignty and integrity of all our republics and provinces, in this case of the Socialist Republic of Serbia. Proceeding from this, at its last session the SFRY Presidency adopted a categorical stand toward the so-called declaration of ethnic Albanian delegates in the Kosovo Assembly with which they unconstitutionally announced changes in the status and character of the Socialist Autonomous Province of Kosovo within the Socialist Republic of Serbia and Yugoslavia. However, I also think that the SFRY Presidency must ensure that Kosovo's autonomy, which is guaranteed by the SFRY Constitution, is not reduced and annulled.

[Curuvija] Is this not going to again cause numerous criticisms in the public that the Presidency is not united, that it cannot agree on major, sensitive issues, that it is not performing its duties properly?

[Suvar] The SFRY Presidency, as I see it and experience it, is united on three most important issues: that the SFRY Constitution and federal laws must be respected and applied, that is to say that they should be amended only according to a constitutionally and legally prescribed procedure; that democratic solutions must be found for all problems in Yugoslavia; and that forced and unconstitutional change of external and internal borders must not be allowed at any price.

We in the current SFRY Presidency are trying to reach a consensus on everything we discuss and make decisions on. However, this is not always possible and we have to,

according to the rules of procedure, make some decisions by a majority vote, in some cases even by a two-thirds majority.

Of course, the Presidency can only make decisions within its powers as determined by the SFRY Constitution.

[Curuvija] By saying this you are informing the public that you were against the stands and views which were adopted by the majority in the SFRY Presidency. Do you expect a new barrage of criticism?

[Suvar] Newspapers and television in some parts of our country have been criticizing me and issuing shameless insinuations and slanders for years. They have also been doing it all the time I have been a member of the SFRY Presidency. At present as many as one half of the Presidency members are being criticized for belonging to some sort of conspiring coalition, even for a grand treason. One must withstand all this at the time of fierce attacks by various nationalists to whom Serbia, or Croatia, or Slovenia are above everything, and who disregard Yugoslavia altogether. Some people seem concerned for the country and the federal system in words only. They are very vociferous but with their policies they are, unfortunately, endangering Yugoslavia as the AVNOJ [Anti-Fascist Council of National Liberation of Yugoslavia], democratic, and joint home of all our truly equal peoples and nationalities.

SFRY Presidency Debates Constitution Amendments

LD2007164990 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1234 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Belgrade, 20 Jul (TANJUG)—The SFRY Presidency at its session today, presided over by its president Dr Borisav Jovic, examined open questions in connection with establishing proposed amendments to the SFRY Constitution. From its session today the Presidency issued a communique stating that the session was also attended by the SFRY Assembly President, the Federal Executive Council president and representatives of republics and autonomous provinces.

The SFRY Presidency concluded that constitutional and legal bases for further economic and political reform would be considerably expanded by the adoption of proposed amendments to the SFRY Constitution as established at a session of the SFRY Assembly's commission for constitutional questions held on 17 July of this year.

The SFRY Presidency concluded that out of 24 proposed amendments, as established by the SFRY Assembly Commission for Constitutional Questions, 11 were unanimously adopted, while the remaining 13 gave rise to varied reservations and remarks from certain republics and provinces.

Proceeding from the fact that it is possible to coordinate stands on some other proposed amendments, until the proposed amendments are adopted by the Federal Chamber of the SFRY Assembly and in the process of giving consent by republics and provinces, unitedly and in the spirit of cooperation and mutual interest, the SFRY Presidency will endeavor to do everything possible for the coordination of the remaining contentious questions and thus create wider opportunities for the implementation of economic and political reform.

Loncar Briefs Presidency on World Events

AU2107180390 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 19 Jul 90 p 5

[TANJUG report: "SFRY Presidency Session"]

[Text] At yesterday's session of the SFRY Presidency—which was chaired by Dr. Borisav Jovic, its president—Budimir Loncar, federal secretary for foreign affairs, briefed the Presidency on the latest trends in Europe and the world, particularly from the standpoint of the interests of Yugoslavia's foreign policy.

The SFRY Presidency endorsed the proposal of the Federal Executive Council that it is essential that the law on supplementing the law on financing the federation be adopted as a temporary measure.

The SFRY Presidency made a decision to pardon a number of people because of appeals from the prisoners themselves and out of official duty. It also adopted the criteria for Republic Day pardons.

Jovic Addresses, Lauds Graduating Army Officers

AU2107200390 Belgrade Domestic Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Mijusko Tomic report]

[Excerpt] [Announcer] The latest class of the Yugoslav People's Army cadets graduated today. The ceremony at the Land Forces Academy at Banjica in Belgrade was attended by Borisav Jovic, president of the SFRY Presidency, and the highest political personalities of the country and of the Armed Forces, Yugoslav people's heroes, veterans of the National Liberation war, and several thousand citizens from all over the country. Mijusko Tomic covered the event for our radio:

[Tomic] Congratulating the men on their successful completion of studies and their graduation to active officers of our Army, Borisav Jovic, president of the SFRY Presidency, said that with this class, our Armed Forces are getting a new, zealous, and highly-educated generation of young experts and educators who will know how to respond to the growing demands of the rapid scientific and technological development in all the fields of human endeavor.

Having recalled that the overall situation in the country is not good, Borisav Jovic, president of the SFRY Presidency, told the youngest generation of our Armed Forces' officers that this must not discourage them, but on the contrary must motivate them to an even more

responsible attitude toward their obligation in ensuring a high combat readiness of our Army, which in these difficult circumstances still acts as a firm, united Yugoslav organization.

[Begin Jovic recording] The peoples and nationalities, and citizens of Yugoslavia will not allow anybody to further endanger the achievements gained in blood and the vital needs and interests of society. This means that the increased social problems... [applause, Jovic repeats himself] This means that the increased social problems can be solved exclusively in a peaceful, constitutional, and democratic way, without an imposition and an undemocratic forcing of changes that concern all our peoples.

We will resolutely oppose both violent constitutional changes and a violent disintegration of Yugoslavia, regardless of the side that manifests such strivings. [applause] The organs that the Constitution of Yugoslavia makes responsible for this task are obliged to ensure it. Our Yugoslav People's Army is also a guarantee of it. It has a role and responsibility determined by the Constitution and the laws [applause] and it must consistently carry them out. [end recording]

[Announcer] After the ceremony and the march past by the newest class of our Army officers, Colonel General Blagoje Adzic, chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Yugoslavia, gave a reception at the Military Academy for the officers who were at the tops of their classes in the military academies all over Yugoslavia. The officers' parents were also invited. [passage omitted]

Criticizes Attempts at Forced Change

LD2107093190 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0822 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Text] Belgrade, 21 Jul (TANJUG)—Yugoslav State President Borisav Jovic today said that "any attempt at forcibly carrying out constitutional changes or bringing about the country's disintegration" would be firmly countered, and underscored that the "Yugoslav problems should be resolved democratically."

Speaking at the promotion of military academy cadets into officers of the Yugoslav People's Army in Belgrade, Jovic said that the peoples and citizens of Yugoslavia would not permit the further endangering of the "achievements for which blood has been shed and of the needs and interests of Yugoslav society." The Yugoslav State Presidency president stressed that problems in society can be resolved solely by peaceful, constitutional and democratic means, "and not by the imposition of one's will and undemocratic extortion of changes which concern all Yugoslav peoples."

SAWPY Presidium Calls for United Left Wing

LD2007174990 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1336 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Belgrade, 20 Jul (TANJUG)—The Socialist Alliance of Working People of Yugoslavia (SAWPY) Federal Confernce Presidium today invited all political parties, alliances, associations, and movements of Yugoslavia and socialist orientation to talks on the formation of a Yugoslav Socialist Democratic Alliance—a united Yugoslav left wing.

Its declaration, adopted by the Presidium on this occasion, proposes that the united Yugoslav left wing contest with its election program the forthcoming elections to the SFRY Assembly and fight for the preservation and development of the Yugoslav community. Constitution and law must bind everyone, it was concluded, so the SFRY Presidency, the Yugoslav Assembly, and the Federal Executive Council must resolutely defend constitutionality and the legal order.

The constitutional order can be changed only in a constitutional and democratic way and not by one sided actions such as those by "the authors of the Slovene declaration or by violent pressures like those mounted by the separatists in the streets of Pristina," the SAWPY Federal Conference Presidium assesses.

Workers Party Makes Call for Democratic Center

LD2207125890 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1134 GMT 22 Jul 90

[Text] Belgrade, 22 Jul (TANJUG)—The Workers' Party of Yugoslavia has urged all democratically oriented individuals, parties, movements and associations together to form a democratic centre of Yugoslavia, in which all democratic and Yugoslav-oriented forces would act.

The "first task" of the centre would be to explain to all Yugoslav peoples the "dangers of national oligarichies," as a statement released by the Workers' party of Yugoslavia today sets out.

The statement underscores that Yugoslavia will not be imposed on anyone, but that, at the same time, no one has the right forcibly to break up Yugoslavia. It specifies that Yugoslavia will not be salvaged by either a new socialism, a new left or a new right, but "solely and exclusively by democracy."

The democratic centre, as the statement released by the Workers' Party of Yugoslavia states, would not be "a new party or firm alliance." Its purpose would be to rally all democratic and Yugoslav-oriented forces to direct the country's human potential to seek solutions for the economic crisis and the elimination of the "economic, moral and spiritual poverty."

The Workers' Party of Yugoslavia points out in its statement that the sole responsibility for the crisis in which Yugoslavia finds itself rests with the "power-holders, who have not only failed to account to the people, but have managed to cloak themselves in a new guise of renewal, changes and left orientations, although

they were until only yesterday the most orthodox opponents of any changes and anythinkng that would be left-oriented and democratic."

"Let us be the opposition to the authorities and not the peoples in Yugoslavia," the Workers' Party of Yugoslavia stresses. It calls on "all opponents of Yugoslavia" to accept a public dialogue, and expresses the conviction that "we still have more arguments than they."

The statement, signed on behalf of the forum of the Workers' Party of Yugoslavia by forum president V.R. Jovanovic, says that the party's first congress will open in Belgrade on September 29.

Markovic, Croat Premier Talk; Reform Discussed

LD2007220490 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2029 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Zagreb, 20 Jul (TANJUG)—The Croatian Government regards the reforms proposed by the Federal Executive Council [FEC] as acceptable provided some adequate refinements are incorporated in them. This is said in a statement from FEC president Ante Markovic's meeting with Stjepan Mesic, president of the Croatian Government.

The Republican Committee for Information of the Socialist Republic [SR] of Croatia tonight issued its statement on the talks between FEC president Ante Markovic, and Stjepan Mesic, president of the Executive Council of the Croatian Assembly, and his aides. The statement says:

"The FEC president, Ante Markovic, is on his first official visit to the Republic of Croatia since the elections.

"Tonight a working meeting was held with Stjepan Mesic, president of the Croatian Government and the majority of his Cabinet at which the key questions of implementing the second phase of the social and economic reforms, proposed by the federal government's new program, were considered.

"President Mesic and the members of the Croatian Government acquainted President Markovic with the current economic trends in Croatia.

"According to available data, the situation is an extremely unfavorable one, primarily characterized by a high degree of illiquidity in the economy, a sharp drop in industrial production and in the economy's overall performance, and by the fall in investments and spending in general, and the fall in the standards of living and employment.

"The negative tendencies in these spheres were expected as a consequence of the implementation of the first phase of the reform which has yielded positive results in curbing inflation, establishing the stability of the domestic currency, achieving a high level of the hard-currency reserves, and in the positive tendences in foreign trade.

"The reforms which the federal government proposes, the concept of which is regarded by the Government of Croatia as being acceptable provided they are appropriately refined, should curb the negative trends since their continuation might jeopardize the successful continuation of the already initiated reform."

'Democratic Transformation' Stressed

LD2107182690 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1517 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Text] Zagreb, 21 Jul (TANJUG)—President of the the Presidency of the Socialist Republic of Croatia Franjo Tudjman today held talks in Zagreb with representatives of the Federal Executive Council headed by President Ante Markovic.

According to a statement by the republican Committee for Information, a high degree of agreement on a number of issues was achieved during these open talks. The necessity for the democratic transformation of the whole country was particularly stressed. Despite resistance, this process cannot be halted. It is a shared opinion that changes should be carried out in a peaceful and democratic way. Also pointed out was the belief in the existence of democratic forces in all the republics: something that will facilitate sensible solutions.

Notwithstanding certain differences in opinion, Ante Markovic's government was praised for its resolve, since the beginning of his mandate, in transforming an extremely inadequate economic system into a modern market system, and for its insistence on developing the country's political system through gradual and constructive changes.

President Tudjman spoke in favor of fighting the extremisms and unrealistic demands coming from all sides.

It is a shared view of all the participants in the talks that only constant dialogue may bring about the definition of a better future.

Serbian Communists' 'Political Somersault' Viewed

AU2107175990 Zagreb VECERNJI LIST in Serbo-Croatian 18 Jul 90 p 2

[Ruska Mance commentary: "New Clothes, Old Communists"]

[Text] The founding of the Socialist Party of Serbia has been proclaimed historic, and rightly so because this act will go down in history if for no other reason than because Serbia is the first republic in Yugoslavia to scrap the League of Communists. After all this, the moral dilemma remains: How was this done by precisely those who have presented themselves to the public as the most loyal guardians of the communist tradition, supported the party's old structure, and feverishly maintained the very name of the League of Communists? The hypocrisy is even greater when one learns that this was the only party congress at which, apart from the usual staging,

there were no indications—pictures and busts— which would recall the leader of the Yugoslav communist movement, Josip Broz Tito.

A radical break with all external indicators of the until recent League of Communists—of which not even a memory will remain, to judge by the documents that have been adopted—really is the kind of political somersault that the reformed communists in other republics could not even have thought about a month or two ago. Of course, another question is what kind of transformation we are talking about and to what extent—in any case individually—the communists are changing in the democratic sense and how many of them have put on new clothes only because of the need and moment imposed by the new (multiparty) period.

Concerning Serbia, one thing is indisputable: Slobodan Milosevic has won again. Indeed, the congress showed that his standing in the ratings has fallen (during the voting for president, he was deprived of 66 votes by the outsider and until-recent Front president, Radmila Andjelkovic) but he continues to enjoy the undivided trust of his followers (all the delegates' major criticism of the candidate list was reduced to minimal changes thanks to him).

He has also become a dual president (of the state and the ruling party) but not the first, as Croatia has a similar solution. However, the difference is that he did not come to this post after a victory by his party at multiparty democratic elections, which is otherwise normal in a western parliamentary democracy. The fact is, however, that he has managed to create a strong party with which he will enter the election race (probably next spring after the constitution is adopted). It is yet to be seen how strong the new party is as regards its membership, but there is no disputing that it has become rich and powerful. It has power and even (social) money which was part of the Socialist Alliance's dowry of property and real estate.

Although it is too early to judge the future of the Socialist Party of Serbia, particularly only on the basis of impressions of the congress and the fact that this nevertheless does not involve any deep internal transformation but a change of name and hastily-applied democratic makeup, all sorts of things are indicative. The envisaged congress scenario was not realized whereby everything finished according to routine and protocol and in a celebratory way in only one day. The last communist and new socialist congress lasted the whole of Monday [16 July] and all through the night until 0900 on Tuesday morning. In the meantime, the number of delegates halved and many of the ones who remained fell asleep. The congress worked in the same way as all previous similar party meetings. As some delegates pointed out, it is interesting that some already-experienced scenes from plenary sessions of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia were repeated at this joint congress of unification.

Real shots were fired by delegates at the proposed cadre lists. [sentence as received] However, it was indicative that after the elections, even the names that were challenged the most and given different epithets were nevertheless elected to the new leadership. It is probably clear that even this was the choice of the head of the new party. And why not: Everyone has the right to choose their own colleagues, particularly when debts and old favors are being repaid.

Serbian Gasoline Prices Hiked Without Permission

LD2107181290 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1642 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Excerpt] Belgrade, 21 Jul (TANJUG)—The Yugoslav Republics of Croatia and Slovenia recently increased gasoline prices, and as of midnight tonight gasoline prices in the Republic of Serbia will also go up 12.02 percent on the average.

The governments of these three republics have raised the prices of oil and oil products without permission from the Federal Government. [passage omitted]

Serbian Socialist Leader on Party Organization

LD2107202390 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1910 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Text] Belgrade, 21 Jul (TANJUG)—The decision of the Serbian Assembly on party organization is essentially a retroactive one, as it denies the rights of people to organize politically where they want to: that is, in enterprizes. General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Serbian Socialist Party [Socijalisticka Partije Srbije—SPS] Petar Skundric stressed this in tonight's Belgrade Television newscast, commenting on editor Milorad Komrakov's remark that the SPS faced a minor problem in the wake of the Assembly's well-known decision on party organization.

Noting that the SPS was committed to both the territorial and the work principle of organization, Skundric hinted that "there will be attempts to change this decision through a democratic procedure." For the time being, he explained, there is no obstacle to having the transformation of the existing League of Communists organizations in workplaces carried out properly, as the interim provisions of the law allow for this. This "direct involvement" in the existing League of Communists organizations may go on unimpeded until the end of October.

Raskovic Vows To Defend Serbs' Rights in Croatia

LD2207160790 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1332 GMT 22 Jul 90

[Text] Vukovar, 22 Jul (TANJUG)—The Serbian Democratic Party [Srpska Demokratska Stranka—SDS] is accused of being likely to cause the outbreak of civil war because of its justified demands, and of those who say this no one realizes that it is precisely the policies being conducted in Croatia today which could be the main cause of civil war in this country.

This was stated today at a rally in the village of Bobota in the Vukovar municipality by Jovan Raskovic, chairman of the SDS. The rally of more than 7,000 local people from this village, and citizens of Slavonija and Baranja, was held to mark the founding of a local branch of the SDS.

Raskovic was greeted with applause when he stated that Serbs in Croatia will never take up arms or threaten anyone's children, but will always be prepared to threaten the Ustasha regime in Croatia if it raises its ugly head. He also expressed the belief that within the Croatian Democratic Community (HDZ), the party in government, commonsense still exists as does the will to recognize in serious negotiations the key issues relating to the position of the Serbs in Croatia and to reach agreement on this.

We cannot discuss things if our each and every demand is rejected, while every demand of the HDZ is accepted, regardless of the arguments involved, Raskovic added, noting that he will be discussing this tomorrow with Franjo Tudjman. I am not going to the talks with Dr. Tudjman to seek favors for the position of the Serbian nation in Croatia, but to openly state what the Serbian nation wants.

Raskovic stressed that in the present situation the Croat Assembly cannot adopt amendments to the republican constitution if the entire Serbian nation in Croatia objects to them because they do not accept the presence of the Serbian nation in Croatia, its rights and its name. We will recognize Croatia as our homeland, but we will not recognize each and every regime in it, said Raskovic, calling on the Croatian nation to ally itself to the just demands of the Serbs.

In conclusion, he stressed that the SDS is calling for autonomy for the Serbs in Croatia, but that this demand is not anti-Croatian, only anti-Ustasha. He also noted that the SDS supports a united Yugoslavia.

Durakovic 'Prevented' From Delivering Speech

AU2007161290 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Ljubomir Nikolic report]

[Text] A scandalous event took place last night in the hall of the Workers University in Velika Kladusa. Many citizens gathered at the scheduled public discussion forum at which Nijaz Durakovic, president of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Bosnia-Hercegovina, was due to speak, but a group prevented Durakovic from speaking by shouting protests, whistling, making noises, and other acts of provocation. Durakovic then left the hall, telling Velika Kladusa that for those who wanted to hear him he would come again.

The organizer of the protest was probably Sead Kajtagovic, brother-in-law of Fikret Abdic and one of the main proponents of the revolt against the officials in Bosnia-Hercegovina.

Durakovic was not even helped by the fact that the day before in Cazin he rehabilitated Hamdija Pozderac by saying that he represents an illustrious image of our revolution and a fighter for a democratic federal Yugoslavia.

Before about 4,000 Cazin people gathered in the town's sports stadium, Durakovic told Croatian Democratic Community members and hawks that neither the gossip mongers nor Sarajevo belong to them and that the Muslims do not have anyone else's blood in their veins but their own. The communists will not so easily lose the battle with revamped Ustashas and Chetniks and other forces that were defeated in the National Liberation Struggle, Nijaz Durakovic said on this occasion.

On the seething Bosnia-Hercegovina political scene, where to a great extent a preelection battle has already begun, this is the first time that one of the leaders of the League of Communists has not been allowed to speak.

On his tour through the Bosnian Krajina, Nijaz Durakovic is due to speak in Titov Drvar and Glamoc this afternoon and evening and in Livno tomorrow.

The Central Committee of the League of Communists of Bosnia-Hercegovina does not discount the possibility of a repetition of the events in Velika Kladusa. That is to say, a branch of the Serbian Democratic Party is already operating in Titov Drvar and a similar mood generally prevails there, but in Livno the Croatian Democratic Community has seriously moved onto the scene.

Leftists in Bosnia-Hercegovina Urged To Unite

LD2107122290 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1125 GMT 21 Jul 90

[Text] Sarajevo, 21 Jul (TANJUG)—The Democratic Socialist Alliance of the Yugoslav Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina today urged all left forces in the republic to unite.

The alliance's republican assembly set out at its session today that room had been created for cooperation with all parties with a socialist and democratic orientation. Talks will be held with all political parties about Yugoslavia, the republic's position in it and the programme of Ante Markovic's federal government.

Leader of the Bosnia-Herzegovina Communists Nijaz Durakovic stated at a meeting in the town of Glamoc late last night that Bosnia-Herzegovina was nobody's geopolitical area for testing various hegemonistic appetites.

Durakovic warned that the League of Communists would not surrender and would not easily lose the battle for the preservation of a free and sovereign Bosnia-Herzegovina and a democratic Yugoslavia.

Montenegrin Law on Political Organization Adopted

LD2007161290 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1200 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Summary] Titograd, 20 Jul (TANJUG)—The Law on Political Organization has been adopted in Montenegro, which means that the multiparty system has finally become official in this republic. A political party can be founded by a minimum of 50 citizens who have the right to vote and who are resident in Montenegro. Social organizations, though, can be founded by a minimum of 20, while social associations need a minimum of 10 citizens. The method of registering is simple. Apart from the application form submitted to the republican Secretariat for Justice and Administration, members have to submit their statute, program, and a certificate about the founding of their party. The secretariat, on its part, has to complete the registration procedure within 15 days without assessing the contents of these documents, but—should it find that they are not in keeping with the law—it can start proceedings for the verification of their constitutionality and legality before the Constitutional Court of Montenegro.

So far the only party to have submitted its application form is the Montenegrin League of Communists.

Macedonian Party Rejects Constitutional Changes

LD2007165590 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1508 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] Skopje, 20 Jul (TANJUG)—The Democratic Party for Macedonian National Unity (VMRO-DPMNE) proposed to the Macedonian public in today's statement not to accept the [words indistinct] proposed amendments to the republican constitution because, in the opinion of the party administrative council, they would "limit the sovereignty of Macedonia."

As assessed in the statement, the amendments to the Macedonian constitution are not acceptable because they are not conducive to the strengthening of independence of this Yugoslav republic and its administrative bodies' internal system.

The party leadership assessed as "shameful" an a priori definition of Macedonia as an "economically insufficiently developed republic," as proposed in the amendments, because, in their view, the Macedonian people will never be able to overcome their under- development if this constitutional principle is applied. Likewise, the party is urging that the current republican presidency as a collective organ be replaced by a Macedonian president as a "head of state and supreme commander of its armed forces," the statement points out.